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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

Report of a Case of Actinomycosis. By A. J. Ochsner, M.D.

[Read before the Chicago Medical Society on November 1st.]

Until the autumn of 1877, this patient, aged 56 years, was in perfect health, following his occupation of stock-raising and dealing in livestock. At this time he was engaged in shipping stock to the east. During a very fatiguing journey and much exposure to draughts of cold air, the patient experienced severe pain in the left antrum of Highmore, which he supposed to be neuralgia caused by defective teeth. He consequently had removed from his upper jaw seven teeth which proved to be sound, and he secured no relief. All the other teeth of his upper jaw had previously been removed at different times, having been more or less decayed.

For about six months the patient suffered excruciating pain in the left antrum and in both eyes, continuing each day from sunrise until sunset.

Early in 1878 there was a spontaneous opening of the abscess into the pharynx, the sinus closing and re-opening

repeatedly, each time evacuating a considerable amount of pus and some blood, and giving the patient marked relief.

A portion of the discharge usually entered the larynx at night, giving rise to severe cough.

During the month of May, 1880, the patient underwent a surgical operation, consisting in making an opening through the mouth into the antrum above the first molar, curetting and irrigating the cavity. The irrigation was continued by the patient two or three times daily for two years. During all of this time he suffered severely from pain and weakness.

In the spring of 1882, the patient went to the northern part of Mexico and spent the summer on the plains and among the mountains between this point and Colorado, returning in the autumn to Indiana, with the antrum closed and his general health much improved.

Later during the same autumn he returned to Mexico and remained there in comparatively good health for twenty months. At this time, however, he began to suffer from a sensation of suffocation, which still continues.

In July, 1885, the patient began to cough, the cough subsiding somewhat under treatment, but increasing to an alarming extent in July, 1886, and continuing to the time of admission into the Presbyterian Hospital of this city, October 13th, 1886.

During the months of September, 1885 and 1886, he expectorated blood, but he thinks it came from the posterior nares.

Since the beginning of October, 1886, he has again expectorated mucus and pus, streaked with blood, which undoubtedly comes from the lungs or the bronchi.

He has lost thirty-seven pounds in weight during the past

two years. His position is stooping, the chest is full in front and there is a decrease of motion on the left side, with dullness, roughened respiratory sounds and numerous mucous râles. Below the upper border of the fifth rib and throughout the right side the sounds are normal.

The above history led me to suspect actinomycosis of the left lung, having primarily existed in the antrum. On making a microscopic examination of the sputum, the characteristic fungus was at once found, confirming the diagnosis, of course, beyond a doubt.

The following facts may be of practical interest in connection with this case.

He has been engaged in raising, buying and selling, and handling large numbers of cattle for more than forty years. Among these animals there were many suffering from the disease known as lumpy-jaw, and it was the practice of the patient to cure the animals thus affected, by freely opening the abscess by crucial incision, extirpating as much as possible of the lump and introducing about one drachm of powdered arsenic into the cavity. Repeating this once or twice, usually effected a permanent cure.

300 South Wood street.

THE RELATION OF STATE MEDICINE TO THE PROFESSION OF ARCHITECTURE. By OSCAR C. DE WOLF, A.M., M.D., Commissioner of Health, Chicago.

[Read before the Third Annual Convention of the Western Association of Architects, Chicago, November 19th, 1886.]

In thinking over the various definitions of state medicine, a line from an almost forgotten dramatist suggests itself to my mind: Parkes, whose *Practical Hygiene* is a classic; De Chaumont, his posthumous editor and worthy successor; Dunglison, of the *Medical Dictionary*; Mapother, Day, Southwood Smith, Chadwick, John Simon, Sir Lyon Playfair, Bowditch, Billings, Rauch and others have all tried their hands at describing and explaining a subject which still remains

Like wit, much talked of, not to be defined.*

In some respects the latest definition, that of the secretary of our State Board of Health, is the best, as it is certainly the most comprehensive.† Dr. Rauch succinctly defines state medicine as the connection of the state with both curative and preventive medicine for the promotion, regulation and control of measures affecting the public health. But for the object of these remarks I shall confine the term to its old signification as illustrated by Dr. Parkes, namely: The legal regulation of the conduct of individuals towards each other in strictly sanitary matters. "For example," he says, "pure air is a necessity for health; but an individual may have little control over the air which surrounds him, and which he must draw into his lungs. He may be power-

^{*} Thomas Outway, author of "Venice Preserved," etc.

[†] Address in state medicine, before the American Medical Association, St. Louis, May 6th, 1886.

less to prevent other persons from contaminating his air, and thereby striking at the very foundation of his health and happiness."

What, then, shall it avail a man, though he have the wealth of Crossus and employ the lineal descendant of Vitruvius Pollio himself to design his stately mansion, if the conditions beyond his own control necessary to ensure a prompt removal of his household-wastes, the protection of his water-supply from pollution, and the freedom of the air he breathes from contamination, be disregarded by that organization formed "to promote the general welfare," and which we call the state? Though there be observed in the building itself all the canons of all the authorities on ventilation and heating-from Dr. Arnott, who set himself the simple problem of securing "at will the temperature most congenial to the human constitution, and air as pure as blows upon the hilltop," down to the latest patentee of the newest "Automatic Zephyr Ventilator and Breath of Spring Pulsifier"; though the highest skill of the sanitary engineer and the most consummate art of the sanitary plumber be lavished upon its appointments, a man's house may, nevertheless, be anything but his castle against the foes to his health, if these be fostered and recruited by municipal neglect and state indifference.

Without the aid of State Medicine the architect will build the house in vain. He may successfully cope with the vicissitudes of a climate such as we have here in Chicago, where the mercury ranges from 22° below to 95° F. above zero—a variation of 117 degrees; where for months together less than an inch of rain may fall in 30 days, and then anon a tropical down-pour of five or six inches in 24 hours. He

may even forecast the meteorological future and plan for a 25 per centum increase in the annual rainfall, such as is shown by the record to have taken place in this city within the past fifteen years. He may provide for possible seismic phenomena; construct fire-proof walls and incombustible interiors; arrange for light in quantity and direction sufficient to satisfy a German oculist, air-space and ventilation adequate to the demands of Angus Smith, plumbing scant and simple enough to meet the approval of that anonymous architect who recently announced in the New York Evening Post that the best plumbed house is that which contains the least plumbing. He may do all this only to find his best efforts set at naught by conditions which legalized authority alone can satisfactorily adjust or remedy.

It is this authority, directed to removing causes which injure the health of the people, that constitutes State Medicine, and it consists in that body of legislation—whether municipal ordinance, act of General Assembly or federal statute—which is intended to promote the sanitary welfare of the community. It embraces not only provisions for the prevention, exclusion or limitation of disease—by quarantine, isolation, disinfection, etc.—for enforcing vaccination, prohibiting food-adulteration, punishing the creation and maintenance of nuisances, protecting water-supplies, etc., etc., but, also, a rapidly increasing volume of legislation concerning the construction of buildings with reference to their security from fire, to their lighting, ventilation, drainage and occupancy.

"After medicine," says Mapother,* "the professions most

V Lectures on Public Health, delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, 1864-67.

concerned in the preservation of the public health rank those of the architect and engineer." And the genial and scholarly Irish professor of hygiene did not hesitate to acknowledge his indebtedness to "those most useful professions" when speaking of ventilation, water-supply, baths, public parks, hospitals, lodging-houses, and the dwellings of the poor. It is the fashion just now to decry at least one of these professions, and we are told in a chapter on the construction of habitations in a recent text-book of hygiene, that "Architects and builders have not kept pace with the sanitarian in the study of the conditions necessary to be observed in building a dwelling which shall answer the requirements of sanitary science."

Still more recently a well-known sanitary engineer quotes the president of the Glasgow Institute of Architects as saying: "To most architects, and especially to young architects, the construction of a building is probably, and the sanitary arrangements, shall I say certainly, the least attractive branch of their professional work; and yet it is the branch of their work which most directly affects the health and comfort of our clients." The author of "The Sanitary Drainage of Houses and Towns" ventures to think that the president of the American Institute of Architects would not differ very much from his Scotch colleague in his opinion that architects attach too little importance to their responsibilities in connection with the drainage of houses which they plan and for every detail of which they ought to have a feeling of personal accountability. And he adds for himself, based on his own experience in connection with plumbing work in houses designed and built by many of the very first architects of the country, "that the architects who know,

who think or who care very much about the practical details of house-drainage are very rare; and that they are more rare among the leaders of the profession than among those who, having less artistic merit, are driven to achieve reputation in practical matters." There are architects and architects, and this sanitary engineer has evidently had to do mainly with other than members of the Western Association, among whom I happen to know many who combine both artistic merit and that sincerity which Emerson commended in him who "builded better than he knew."

It may be true that some architects are open to the strictures of these writers; but I apprehend that the true explanation of any seeming disregard of what sanitarians consider the essentials of domestic architecture lies with the clients of the architect in their want of definite knowledge of these essentials and of their paramount importance-rather than with the architect himself. In his work on the "Principles of Ventilation and Heating and their Practical Application," Dr. Billings touches one root of the trouble when he says: "Every one who has occasion to examine the subject discovers that it is difficult to secure good ventilation throughout a building, but very few know what the principal difficulty is. Many persons seem to suppose that it depends upon some properties of gases as yet unknown, or upon some mysteries connected with the fact that heat is a mode of motion of the molecules of matter which can only be expressed in complicated mathematical formulæ. The essential difficulty, however, which architects and engineers will find most prominent is that of cost. If the question of expense be entirely set aside, ventilation becomes a comparatively simple matter." So, too, I presume, the architect who has as tractable a client as Mr. Howells portrays in

the "Rise and Fall of Silas Lapham," and who receives carte blanche as to sanitary details in general, finds no insuperable difficulty in satisfying the "requirements of sanitary science."

But even when this is withheld, it is clearly incumbent upon the architect, from his earliest interview with his client whose sanitary ignorance may, as a rule, be safely assumedto keep him advised of the importance of these requirements. It is the architect's duty, as Billings says, to see that "after the various additions to the plan, which will be made at the suggestion of the owner's wife, and several of his friends, on whose taste he relies, have increased the cost above what he had intended, he does not, in the spasm of economy and retrenchment which will attack him, make the reduction in the ventilation," or drainage, or other sanitary necessity, rather than on some of the ornamental work outside. What your duty is, however, I do not need to tell you; still less do I assume to instruct you in those engineering and technical details which are of the essence of your professional attainments. When the public comes to know the value of the conditions of health in the home, and is willing to pay the cost of them, the architect will not be found wanting.

* who for himself will take no heed at all!"

A more profitable and appropriate line of comment by a Commissioner of Public Health, accorded the privilege of addressing the members of a profession so intimately concerned with "the life o' the building," is afforded by a consideration of some of the architectural causes of disease and the rôle which state medicine may play in securing their remedy.

During the last census year the causes of a total of over 750,000 deaths were reported in detail. Of this number the group of general diseases to which diphtheria, typhoid or enteric fever, cholera infantum, etc., belong, furnished more than 200,000, and the group to which consumption belongs furnished 136,000 more. Fully one-half of the total mortality of the country is properly credited to the preventable diseases. Not all of these, it is true, are wholly preventable by any attainable perfection in the construction of habitations. Given the introduction of the particulate germs of scarlet fever, for example, into a family housed in accordance with the most approved hygienic requirements, and the disease will be as certainly developed as these germs find access into a susceptible organism. Pure air, unpolluted water, spotless cleanliness, in themselves, afford no protection against these specific communicable diseases. There is this, however, to be said concerning the whole class of eruptive fevers-small-pox, measles, scarlet fever, etc.-as well as diphtheria, whoopingcough, and other diseases whose propagation and dissemination depend upon a particular contagium, to-wit: That the subsequent safety of the dwelling into which such a disease has once obtained access, is very largely a question of its architectural construction. The solid particles of these contagia, dried up into a mere dust, absorbed by porous bodies, attached to adhesive surfaces—retain their poisonous properties for varying periods, some of them for a practically unlimited time. Before the discovery of Jenner had thrown its ægis of protection over the world, almost every dwelling was a perennial center of small-pox infection; and it is not yet definitely. known how long this poison, or that of scarlet fever, diphtheria, erysipelas, hospital gangrene, etc., may remain potent in the plaster of a wall or ceiling, or in the woodwork of a

room. Thanks, however, to modern sanitary science, this class of diseases is steadily losing its deadly preponderance, and out of the total of deaths each year, it now furnishes less than 10 per centum. With better housing, purer water, fresher air and more wholesome food, comes a greater resisting power to all forms of disease; and sanitary architecture goes hand-in-hand with the other branches of sanitary science in restricting the sway of preventable disease.

And yet that there still remains much to be done is shown among other facts, by the statistics of mortality from consumption and pulmonary diseases. More than 100,000 persons will have died in this country during the present year from pulmonary consumption alone-more than one-eighth of the total mortality from all causes combined. With the stock illustrations concerning the evils of impure air-the Black Hole of Calcutta, the Grotto del Cane, the bird and the bell glass, etc., we are all tolerably familiar; but, at the risk of taxing your patience, I will briefly refer to what has long seemed to me the most striking and conclusive experiment of this kind ever made. A body of men, rigidly selected by strict physical examination, at the best period of life; engaged in open-air duty of a moderate character; comfortably clothed, well fed, housed at considerable expense; and promptly cared for, even in slight illnesses, by the highest medical skill-in short, the British soldier in barracks, at home, in time of peace—was found to be dying off at the rate of 17.5 per thousand, per annum, at the same time that the mortality of both town and country populations combined was only 9.2 per thousand at the same ages, and of the country population at those ages alone, was only 7.7 per thousand.

When the cause of this great disparity came to be investigated, it was discovered that the diseases known as pulmonary were the fatal maladies, which specially affected the soldier and laid him low. It was discovered that while in civil life the deaths by pulmonary or chest diseases at the soldiers' ages were 6.3 per thousand, they amounted in the cavalry to 7.3, in the infantry of the line to 10.2, in the guards to 13.8. Of the entire number of deaths from all causes in the army, diseases of the lungs constituted the following proportion: In the cavalry 53.0 per centum, in the infantry of the line 57,277, and in the guards 67,683 per centum. Pushing their inquiries one step farther still, the reporters came at last to the kernel of their task. Why should these selected soldiers suffer so especially from diseases of the chest? Was there anything in their occupation, in their clothing, in their diet, that would account for the phenomenon and indicate the pre-disposing causes of their excessive mortality from pulmonary disease? On these points the reporters were able by the process of exclusion to remove many suspected causes. They were able to exclude night duty, want of exercise, unsuitable employment, and intemperate and debauched habits. These influences the inquirers did not, of course, ignore, but by comparison they found them insufficient to account for the disparity which was seen to exist between the soldiers and the other classes of the community.

I quote the rest of the story from the graphic pen of Benjamin Ward Richardson, whose "Field of Preventive Medicine" is at once the most charming and the most instructive volume in sanitary literature: "At last they came upon one cause which they could not exclude, and which, in accordance with the Newtonian saying, was both true and sufficient cause to account for the phenomenon. That one cause, or rather that one series of causes, was overcrowding, insufficient ventilation, and nuisances arising from latrines and defective sewerage in barracks. A single agent, vitiated air, acted with such intensity, especially when superadded to a certain degree of exposure, as not only to produce in the foot-guards an amount of chest-disease and especially of pulmonary consumption, greater than was produced in civil life by all the other causes united, but actually to carry off annually a number of men nearly equaling in the infantry, and actually exceeding in the guards, the number of civilians of the same age who died from all classes of disease." Dr. Richardson justly characterizes the record of these observations as the best and most forcible. because most extended and accurate, that has ever been supplied respecting the influence of confined air in the living and sleeping-apartments of men who are accustomed even to an active life and to the enjoyment of much out-door exercise. If it had been desired to carry out a great physiological experiment in order to determine how diseases of the lungs might be artificially induced in men who had been healthy up to the time of the experiment, no method could have been devised that would have led to a series of results more striking or more convincing. Neither could the experiment have been more satisfactorily concluded than was done by following the recommendations of the commissioners. They recommended that an entirely new system should be introduced into barrack life; that air, fresh and pure, should at all times circulate through the buildings, and especially through the dormitories, and that every soldier should have efficient and sufficient breathing space. Since these regulations have been in force the subjects of this experiment no longer occupy the unenviable position of being first in the ranks of those who fall victims to pulmonary consumption and other affections of the respiratory organs, but are rather the models of a lower mortality; so that as the jails, once the foci of fever, are at this time the most free of that disease, the barracks, once the foci of consumption. are now the most free of that destroying malady. In the jail in its very worst condition of foul air, the disease typhus was the scourge; in the barracks with foul air, but less foul, consumption was the scourge. With pure air substituted in both places, both diseases have been enchanted away. Well may Richardson say that lessons such as these should never be cast aside while yet in many of our best houses-best in relation to their appearance and cost, not in respect to their construction—the errors that were common in the barrack are still present, and rooms are used as sleeping-rooms which stand in the eyes of the sanitarian like so many experimental boxes for the synthetical development of pulmonary disease. "The room is too small; the room is devoid of a fireplace; the room is devoid of a ventilator; the room has a window that will open with difficulty and at best but a little way; and yet that room is used as a sleeping-room for one or it may be two persohs. These are the rooms in which they who are disposed to pulmonary affection find their early fates; these rooms are the vestibules to the grave."

To this picture, as a fitting contrast, may be added the following seven points suggested as the "charter of health" which a house should have, in its construction and its architecture, to fit it for human habitation:

It must present no facilities for holding dust or the poisonous particles of disease; if it retain one it is likely to retain the other.

It must possess every facility for the removal of its impurities as fast as they are produced.

It must be free from damp.

It must be well filled with daylight from all points that can be charged with light from the sun without glare.

It must be supplied with perfectly pure air in steadily changing current.

It must be maintained at an even temperature.

It must have an abundant supply of pure water.

Such houses are by no means impossible ideals. They have already been realized in many of our suburban towns, and, by the agency of State Medicine, they may be made possible even in cities. As many of you are aware, the forth-coming session of the general assembly of this state will be urged to pass a law framed under the auspices of the Illinois State Association of Architects, to provide for the regulation and inspection of the sanitary construction and alterations or modifications of buildings in cities and villages, and to secure proper ventilation and sewerage-systems for habitable buildings, etc.

This act is intended to supplement existing legislation upon the subject, and under which in this city alone a great saving of life is annually effected.

Section 686 of the city ordinances declares that, "It shall be the duty of the commissioner-of health to enforce all the laws of the state and ordinances of the city in relation to the sanitary regulations of the city, and cause all nuisances to be abated with all reasonable promptness," etc.

This ordinance is very general in its character, but there are many others which apply directly to specified unsanitary conditions in all classes of buildings, and under this legislation the sanitary work of the city is divided into—

First. The sanitary work performed in occupied places of habitation and which includes all buildings wherein any person may dwell or lodge.

Second. The control of the sanitary conditions and safety

as relates to egress, protecting machinery and storage of dangerous materials in places of employment or service.

Third. The exclusive control under the state laws of all the sanitary arrangements or conditions, such as the heating, lighting, ventilating, plumbing and drainage to be provided in every building within the city, during its construction and which is to be used as a place of habitation.

Section 1347, of the city ordinances, declares, "That no person shall hereafter erect, or cause to be erected, or converted to a new purpose by alteration, any building or structure which, or any part of which, shall be inadequate or defective in respect to ventilation, light, sewerage, or any of the usual, proper or necessary provisions or precautions for the preservation of health."

The state laws invest the commissioner-of-health with authority to control all the sanitary arrangements to be provided in any habitable building within the city.

The enforcement of these laws by the inspectors has been the means of accomplishing more valuable sanitary work than by all other ordinances combined, in that by their enforcement, all improvements made are of a *permanent character*, and place the building, except in cases of accident, in a permanently good sanitary condition, thereby benefiting all occupants uniformly throughout the city.

The construction of dark, damp, unventilated living-rooms has been wholly prohibited for the past two years. All water-closet rooms are provided with sufficient external light and ventilation, and are never permitted to be in any way directly connected with any habitable room. In fact, all sanitary conditions in the construction of buildings in this city are now enforced which are in anywise conducive to the health of the occupants.

What state medicine may do to regulate the conduct of individuals toward each other in strictly sanitary matters, and so to promote the end of hygiene, which aims at rendering growth more nearly perfect, decay less rapid, life more vigorous, death more remote, is well illustrated in our neighboring town of Pullman, where a corporation stands in the relation of the state to the community in this regard. I have already treated of this town from a state medicine standpoint, and I will only now cite its death-rate as the sufficient criterion of the success which may attend the plenary control of the sanitary conditions of human life.

The town has now been in existence six years, and its population is about 9,000—a period sufficiently long and numbers great enough to eliminate any exceptional conditions which might obtain. The death-rate of the town of Hyde Park, of which Pullman is legally and territorially a part, in which the same natural conditions exist, and which is occupied by substantially the same kind of population as that of Pullman, averages 15 per thousand annually, according to the last report of the State Board of Health. In Pullman the deaths have ranged from 6.9 to 7.6 in every thousand of population, or less than one-half the deaths in the territory immediately surrounding the town.

The average for American cities is over three times this number, and the average annual death-rate of the world is 32 out of every thousand of population. The average death-rate in the City of Mexico is 56 per thousand, or eight times the rate in Pullman. The healthful conditions here are unequaled by those in any city of the world. The lowness of the death-rate is remarkable. With one-quarter of the number of the physicians that ordinarily administer to a popula-

tion of this size, Pullman has only a little more than one-quarter of the deaths usual in the same number of people.

Gentlemen of the Western Association of Architects, your profession is one of the highest exponents of the material attributes which differentiate man from the beasts which perish. Man alone makes for himself an artificial climate, outwits the elements, and makes all nature tributary in his habitation to the conveniency, strength and beauty which your ancient authority Vitruvius says are the three requisites in every structure, and without which no building can merit our esteem and approbation.

If, as Sallust says, "Every man is the architect of his own fortunes," you, gentlemen, are more than the architects of your own. To your professional intelligence, sincerity and skill, every man must trust for that without which fortune is but a dead sea fruit—a healthy life.

A REPORT OF FIVE CASES OF STRICTURE OF THE RECTUM, WITH REMARKS ON THE TREATMENT OF ITS MORE SEVERE FORMS. By A. E. HOADLEY, M.D., Professor of Anatomy, Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, Professor of Surgery, Chicago Policlinic.

[Read before the Chicago Medical Society, November 1st.]

For the purpose of demonstrating that one plan is better than another, in the surgical treatment of any disease, it is necessary, in a measure at least, to show the results of both methods.

With this object in view, I have selected the following five cases, some of which in themselves illustrate more than one plan of treatment. Such cases must necessarily show some errors of judgment, or they could not serve the double purpose of illustrating good and bad treatment. Furthermore, a badly treated case honestly reported often teaches a better lesson than the report of one that has been skillfully managed.

CASE I.—Mr. J. H. German, engineer, forty years of age, gave a history of hæmorrhoids of eight years' standing, and stricture of two years. Examination revealed a hard carcinoma of the rectum within one and a half inches of the anus, and immovable on account of adhesions to the sacrum. All of the adjacent parts were infiltrated, and the bowel completely occluded. The general condition of the patient was very bad. He was emaciated, bed-ridden, and suffered almost constant pain. His abdomen was much swollen and very tender, the bowels not having moved for a period of two weeks. All food was immediately vomited. He only took small quantities of wine and water. Pulse was 120 and feeble. His temperature, 102° F. At the first examination I succeeded with the finger in changing somewhat the relation of the cancerous mass that protruded into the rectum from the front, and which was also adherent to the posterior The adhesions being very carefully separated, the tumor could be brought down to a slight extent, which enabled me to pass the nozzle of a syringe beyond the This was done without any laceration of the tissues of the tumor, a thing always to be guarded against in the examination of malignant stricture of the rectum. With the nozzle of the syringe in position I injected a half pint of soap-water which immediately escaped and brought with it a little fecal matter and considerable gas. The injection was ordered to be repeated through the afternoon and evening as often as the patient could endure it. On the following day I was informed that five injections had been given, with the effect of bringing away considerable fecal matter and gas, resulting in great relief to the patient. He could then take beef-tea and retain it. His pulse was 100. His temperature 100° F. As an attempt at opening the rectum was so painful, he was allowed to go three days without further treatment, when it again became necessary to do something for him. Ether was administered and, by careful use of the finger, sharp curette, and knife, an opening large enough to admit a finger was formed. This operation was followed by great relief generally, but there remained severe tenesmus and pain with and after each act of defecation. Two other like operations were performed, which resulted in the formation of a fair canal through the cancerous mass, but without relief from pain. The patient had from the first refused to have anything like a surgical operation performed. What he had already endured, in the way of operations, was regarded by him as a means of stretching his stricture. But the patient was getting discouraged, and had decided to die without further treatment, when, with great difficulty, I induced him to submit to one more stretching operation. At this time I divided the lower end of the growth and the sphincter ani with one stroke of the knife. There was but little hæmorrhage, which ceased entirely within five minutes. With the exception of the occurrence of a small and very painful ischio-rectal abscess, which developed after this last operation, he suffered no more pain in the ano-rectal region. There was more or less pain in the lower part of the abdomen and back, necessitating the use of morphine once or twice a day. The relief

obtained by the division of the sphincter was ten-fold greater than that from all the other operations together. A persistent diarrhœa, from extension of the disease, hastened his death, which occurred two months later. Although there was rectal incontinence, he would have sufficient warning to prepare himself for the coming passage. What I most regret in the treatment of this case is, that I did not, at the first operation, divide the sphincter and the cancer above it, so that there would have been perfect freedom for the discharges, and rest for the sphincter. Had I done this my patient would probably have had one month more of comparative freedom from pain, and would not have suffered the pains of an ischio-rectal abscess.

CASE II. Mr. G. English, a laborer, 42 years old, gave a history of hæmorrhoids and stricture of five years' standing, and a very unsatisfactory history of syphilis. Examination revealed, within two inches of the anus, a firm, unvielding stricture, which barely admitted the tip of my index finger. The most distressing conditions were diarrhea and tenesmus. With some stretching and nicking, I was soon able to pass my finger beyond the first joint through the stricture. As syphilis could not be excluded, I put him on large and increasing doses of iodide of potassium, and commenced systematic dilatation, passing a bougie twice a week for four weeks, at which time I could, without difficulty, pass a number 10 rectal bougie one inch in diameter. There was no particular irritation at the seat of the stricture. He could, after that, defecate without difficulty. Further dilatation was stopped, and the iodide of potassium continued in forty-grain doses three times a day. Two months made no change in the quality or quantity of the stricture-tissue. The passage was still so large that there was no obstruction, but the bowels were very irritable, the pain and diarrhea gradually getting worse, and the patient evidently losing flesh. He begged to have something done for his relief, and readily consented to have the stricture and sphincters divided, which was thoroughly done, and the wound packed with gauze on which a little dry persulphate of iron had been sprinkled Great relief followed the operation, and the diarrhœa immediately subsided. There was no pain, his appetite returned, and he slept well, until the fourth day, when he suddenly imagined that he felt very bad because he had had no movement of his bowels in the meantime. A small dose of licorice powder at night relieved his bowels, and also his mind. The following two months he was annoyed by incontinence of gas and liquid fæces, but he stated that the annovance of incontinence was nothing compared to the distress caused by the stricture before its division. An examination two months after operation showed that the incision at the stricture and in the bowel below, including half of the internal sphincter, was perfectly healed. The wound of the external spincter and integument was nearly closed, with good prospect of its being entirely healed within another month. At the site of the stricture there is nothing to indicate that it ever existed. The bowel, on a superficial examination, appears soft and pliant, and as capacious as normal, but with care one can discover that it is slightly thicker at this point than above or below. The thickened condition extends up and down for about one inch and a half. It is soft, and feels like a slight swelling of the mucous membrane. His general condition is improving every day, and he feels much better than at any time during the past year.

Case III.—Mrs. K., American, aged thirty-nine years, mother of three children, gave a history of stricture of rectum of nine years' standing. She had been treated by several physicians in various ways, with but little benefit. I first saw the case on July 1st, 1886. She was a pitiable object; emaciated to a remarkable degree; walked with great difficulty; had from fifteen to twenty movements of the bowels every day, and every passage was attended with burning, tenesmic pain. On examination I found an almost impervious stricture within one inch of the anus. Vaginal examination showed that there was much mischief above the stricture. I informed her that an immediate operation was necessary to save her life. Still one week went by before she was admitted to the Presbyteriam Hospital, in such a deplorable condition that I dreaded to operate lest she die on the table.

I first divided the stricture so that I could introduce my finger, when somewhat to my surprise I found that the rectumcontained a carcinomatous growth almost occluding the canal, higher than I could reach with my fingers. It was necessary to divide the tissues posteriorly to admit my fingers, for fear of lacerating the tumor through into the peritoneum. After working my finger as far up the rectum as possible, I divided the sphincters and tissues back to the coccyx, when I was able: to reach still higher, but could not reach the top of the mass, which was quite firmly adherent in all directions. I next made a deep incision through it posteriorly nearly to the sacrum, from a point as high up as I could reach with my finger down to the incisions already made through the external tissues. I then quickly placed a piece of gauze in the wound with pressure upon it, to try to prevent bleeding. Although the hæmorrhage was not very free, it was necessary to save every drop of blood possible, as my patient was in extremis. With some difficulty I succeeded in getting a largesized drainage-tube above the stricture, for the purpose of relieving the bowels of gas and liquid feces. I then finished packing the rectum, leaving the tube in, and, after securing all with a T bandage, put the patient to bed. For four days she lingered at death's door, and then quickly rallied and was removed from the hospital in a week from the time of the operation. In two weeks she was walking about. Her general condition was improving rapidly; the diarrhœa had stopped, and her appetite was good. At the end of five weeks she left the city on a visit, where, at last accounts, she still was. Three months after the operation, she was feeling very comfortable and had gained six pounds in weight, and said in a letter to her mother, " if Dr. H. could see me now he would not think that I had a cancer." I heard from her one week ago, when she was still comfortable, and able to walk out every day.

The following case will illustrate some of the dangers attending the practice of forcibly dilating malignant strictures. . CASE IV.—A German lady, fifty-six years old, mother of several children, had always enjoyed good health until the last three years, when she became aware of the presence of a stricture of the rectum. She had done little for it until it had so nearly closed the bowel that she could endure the distress no longer, when she applied for treatment. Examination disclosed a close, firm, annular stricture, within one inch of the The stricture with the sphincters were divided, and on anus. introducing the finger, the bowel was found blocked up with other strictures, undoubtedly malignant, and of irregular formation, as far as the finger could reach. These were dilated with the fingers, the tissues being quite friable and yielding readily under pressure. The canal was opened as far as I could reach, without lacerating the rectum itself. Violent inflammation supervened, involving the pelvic cellular tissue, extending up into the abdomen, and for five days it endangered the life of the patient. She made a very slow and tedious recovery, stating that she believed she was made worse by the operation. She went away, and I have heard nothing from her since. As to this case, it is my conviction, that had I incised those strictures, instead of stretching them, my patient would have been spared the dangerous ordeal of an inflammation and would have derived benefit and comfort from the operation.

CASE V .- An American lady, sixty-seven years old, well preserved and remarkably healthy until five years ago, when she became aware that she was afflicted with stricture of the rectum. She could give no history of any cause for She had had four children; her labours had been normal and easy, and from every one of which she made a rapid and perfect recovery. Two years ago she had an ischio-rectal abscess, which resulted in the formation of a fistula, but which did not prove troublesome until some four or five months prior to my first visit, when she again suffered from another abscess and then from a general suppurating inflammation of the whole ano-rectal region. At this time Dr. G. E. Brinkerhoff was called to attend her, and recognizing the necessity of operative treatment he called me in consultation. Under the influence of an anæsthetic, an examination was made, which revealed two or three open sinuses and as many fluctuating abscesses in the ischio-rectal region, with a very firm annular stricture of the rectum within one and a half inches of the anus; also, a carcinoma of the os uteri and upper part of the vagina. The vaginal walls were agglutinated below, but were easily separated, making the diagnosis easy and certain. It would have been better for the patient if the cancer had not been discovered. She was weak, emaciated and cachectic, which seemed as much due to the cancer as to the bowel trouble, and there appeared to be little that could be done for her. I therefore opened the abscesses and sinuses freely, packing them with iodoform-gauze, and divided the stricture without dividing the sphincter, contenting myself with dilating it. The operation was for the relief of pain, as it was believed that the patient had but a short time to live. The relief following the operation was great. The inflammation subsided, her bowels moved easily, and her general condition improved. The cancerous cachexia disappeared and she began to believe that she would get well, when another abscess made its appearance, causing great suffering and prostration. The attending physician wished to open this for her, but she refused and suffered it to break, which it did within the bowel, giving some relief; but as the abscess cavity continued to refill she was not fully relieved until some two weeks later, when the skin covering the sinus gave way, making a complete fistula, with relief of all pain. This condition did not last very long, for the stricture again became troublesome, and in making an examination, which I did with the consent of Dr. Brinkerhoff, I found that the stricture was as closely contracted as at the time of the operation, three and one-half months before. cancer is about the same and gives her no trouble. general condition is comparatively good, and there is no evidence of immediate dissolution. With the present condition of the stricture, however, it is probable that she will soon be prostrated again. With these facts before her she declines another operation. In this case, again, I have to regret that I did not divide the sphincter with the stricture down to the cellular tissue beneath. By doing this I could have opened the fistulous tract throughout, and the stricture could not have again united, so soon at least, and the patient's last days would have been more comfortable. As it is, she may continue to suffer to the end of her life.

From a study of the foregoing cases we may deduce the following principles, which are in accord with the teachings of the best surgeons of the day.

First.—It is dangerous to practice divulsion of malignant stricture of the rectum.

Second.—Division of a severe stricture of the rectum without dividing the sphincters is of little practical value.

Third.—Division of malignant strictures, with the sphincter, gives great relief and tends to prolong life.

Fourth.—Division of severe non-malignant stricture, with the sphincters, gives great relief and tends to perfect cure.

Fifth.—Division of strictures, whether malignant or not, and of the sphincters, is attended with little danger to life. All severe strictures should be treated by complete division, the cut including all the tissues below and back, as far as the tip of the coccyx. This operation affords, in cases of malignant stricture, the greatest possible measure of relief, and in non-malignant stricture the best means of permanent cure at our command.

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A REPORT OF A CASE OF HYSTERIC TRANCE. By C. F. DARNALL, M.D.

Mrs. H. A. H., aged 31, came under the writer's care in September, 1884. She had been married fifteen years, and had given birth to nine children, the youngest being at that time sixteen months old. The patient was a farmer's wife, a household drudge, small and poorly developed, of a phthisical family, nervous temperament, and of ordinary mental capacity. For years she had been afflicted with cough and expectoration and a gradual failure of physical forces. A sudden and severe cold caused a pleurisy, which was the occasion for calling medical assistance. After an illness of a few days and a complication of ailments she convalesced, but an irritable stomach and aggravating cough remained. In the fourth week she was able to be out of bed a short time during each day, when the climax came in the shape of a quarrel with her husband. She had menstruated a few days before, and at this time was seized with an acute pain in the left ovarian region. A few hours after, when conversing about her marital troubles, she suddenly went into a trance. The first thing noticed was a vacant stare and a catching of the breath, a throwing out of the arms at right angles to the body, her legs extended and head thrown back, and then she became unconscious. Her limbs were stiff and resisted all attempts to unbend; the face was pallid, eyelids tightly closed and closing again if forced open; eyes turned upward and moving when touched; pupils slightly dilated and slowly responding to the light. The respiration was shallow and irregular, seven to nine per minute; pulse, 78 to 90, soft and weak; flatness on percussion, sibilant and subcrepitant râles. Superficial temperature was decreased, generally 98° in the axilla; sometimes normal, and

rarely 99° or 100°, which was the case when the attack was brought on by any high nervous excitement. Liquid food was slowly swallowed, often being retained for quite a while before causing sufficient irritation to relax the pharyngeal muscles. These variations embrace the symptoms of many attacks she had subsequently. For the first week or so they would come on at eight or half past in the morning and at six in the afternoon, and lasting from one to three hours. The aura would be pain in the stomach, shifting to the left ovary, a slight chill, then the trance. After the initial rigidity passed away, in half an hour or so, she would still be stiff, but the limbs could be moved, the other conditions being the same as at the beginning. Muscular relaxation would all at once take place and she would waken with a start. She seemed then to not understand what had happened; would be restless and change her position in bed; would not speak, but motion for her limbs to be rubbed, for a drink of water, or some such thing. Then she would fall into a natural, deep sleep, lasting from a few moments to a half hour, from which she would awaken with a clear mind, complaining of a general feeling of soreness and fatigue. In the sixth week family matters reached a crisis, her husband leaving her, but returning occasionally to talk over the division of the property. At this time her attacks lost all periodicity, coming oftener and at any time, with less force and of shorter length. If she happened to be sitting in a chair when overcome, she would retain the erect position. For a time there was each day a series of them, each one shorter and weaker than the one preceding, with a period of sleep intervening, appearing as if her nervous force had assumed a tangible form, wave succeeding wave until lost in quietude again.

Her friends then unadvisedly called in a minister to look

after her spiritual necessities, and at the next trance, a little while after, a surprising change took place. Coming in between the stage of lethargic rigidity and the sleep was an apparently lucid interval, during which she would sit up in bed. The eyes were opened wide, filled with a far-away supernatural look, and her expression of countenance was that of one engaged in delightful, dreamy contemplation. It seemed as if another spirit had taken momentary possession of her body, revealing entirely different views and impulses from those which she exhibited when surrounded by ordinary every-day environments. Before, her life had not been governed by religious motives, but now the whole bent of her mind was directed in elevated and exalted channels. Without the statuesque appearance of ecstacy, or the waxen mobility of catalepsy, she assumed a devotional attitude, lasting only a moment. At the visit of the minister a hymn book was left on the bed, and after she emerged from the trance state she made search for it and opened it, when through with the supposed prayer. She turned over leaf by leaf until she found an old familiar hymn known to her in bygone days. The words were unaccompanied by notes, yet she correctly carried the tune through and would sing one or two more. This was done several times a day and for about a week. Her voice was clear and sweet, vibrating in the most touching way. If the key was pitched too high or too low, she would begin again until she was right. If she mispronounced a word or sounded a wrong note, the word or note would be correctly repeated. If any one were to purposely place the book upside down or turn over too many leaves, she would right the book and proceed to the finish without being disconcerted. All this time she appeared

awake, her eyes wide open, pupils dilated, deeply intent upon what she was doing and taking no note whatever of her friends or surroundings. This would last a short time, when she would close the book and sleep, awakening perfectly rational; the wandering spirit had departed its host, her own had returned, and she was herself again. No knowledge existed of what had transpired from the moment she entered the trance nor any memory of visions. All was blank and the time consumed was as nothing. Sometimes the book would be hidden or another substituted before she searched for it. If she could not find it she would look at her hands a few moments in a dazed, bewildered manner, shed a few hysterical tears and go to sleep.

Thus ran the case over three months of time, gradually submitting to treatments, as her domestic troubles were amicably adjusted. Nothing was done to shorten or avert the attacks, yet it looked as if Charcot's method of ovarian compression always relieved her, as she would return to rationality whenever it was employed. As to physical condition, there was enlargement of the left ovary and thickening of the left broad ligament; uterus in normal position, enlarged somewhat, with endometritis and granular erosions. Hysteria disappeared when these local troubles were cured, but owing to the complexities of the case and the many discouraging features arising, recovery was necessarily delayed. Menstruation occurred every two or three weeks; and while she was in bed nearly all the time, yet hardly a day passed that she did not take a secret smoke, knowing it was forbidden.

Many remedies were tried, but the bromides, tonics and good food were successful. The monthly flow became

normal, and for two years now there have been only once hysteric symptoms, and then it was *globus hystericus* in the throat and dyspnœa, controlled by the bromides.

Sufficient space has already been taken without entering into speculation as to the pathology of the case, and our text-books will abundantly supply that.

West Union, Iowa.

The Use of Ichthyol in the Treatment of Skin Diseases. By Joseph Zeisler, M.D.

[Read before the Chicago Medical Society, November 15th, 1886.]

Only a few years ago ichthyol was introduced into dermatological practice by that industrious worker Unna, in Hamburg, to whom we owe so many other practical contributions. The question of its merits was discussed by a number of writers, some praising it enthusiastically, others attributing very little value to it. As to my own experience, the results obtained by me in using this drug for nearly one and a half years were so favorable that I deem it my duty to give an account of the same, and in so doing contribute toward a better knowledge of that valuable remedy. It is not the object of this paper to enter into a discussion of the chemical properties of ichthyol, or, as it is properly called, sulpho-ichthyolate of ammonia. Nor shall I dwell at length on its physiological action upon the normal and diseased skin; this was done in a very extensive manner in Unna's last paper on the subject*, an abstract of which appeared in the Journal of Cutaneous and Venereal Diseases of September last. To anyone who is specially interested in the subject, a careful perusal of the

^{*} Ichthyol and Resorcin. Leipzig and Hamburg, 1886.

original will be of the greatest advantage. My own attention was first attracted to ichthyol by a short communication in the *Deutsche Mediz. Wochenschrift, 1885*, wherein Lorenz speaks in the highest terms of its wonderful action in articular rheumatism, when used externally over the inflamed joints. Only short reference was made there to its power of arresting inflammation and relieving local pains. Since then I used it in over 100 cases of skin diseases, and without claiming for it any specific effect, I may say that I owe some of my best results to it, and that I very seldom was disappointed by the same.

In looking over my record, I find that ichthyol was prescribed in the following cases: Eczema, 56; acne vulgaris, 10; acne rosacea, 7; sycosis, 11; herpes tonsurans, 4; telangiectasis, 4; prurigo, 2; pruritus, 2; psoriasis vulg., 2; psoriasis palmaris specifica, 2 cases; seborrhœa, acne varioliformis, lichen pilaris, impetigo contagiosa, purpura rheumatica and ulcera cruris, each I case. In some of these it was only used as an adjuvant. In all of them I applied it externally, in the form of salve, the strength varying from 3 to 30 per centum. It mixes very well with all of the ointmentbases; as such, were used mostly vaseline, cold-cream, zinc salve and lanolin, to which were sometimes added other drugs, as adjuvants, like salicylic acid, præcip. album, resorcin, naphtol, sapo viridis and others, according to the requirements of the case. The rather strong and peculiar smell of ichthyol, although not very offensive, can easily be overcome when used in the form of ointments. A slight brownish discoloration following its use will usually soon disappear. No other inconvenience was noticed from its external application, except in a few instances where a slight burning sensation was complained of, especially when used on the face. Several times I observed that soon after the application of an ichthyol compound the skin would be covered with a watery fluid on the anointed parts, like little dew-drops. Lorenz, who seems to have made the same observation, interprets it as hyperidrosis. Unna very often prescribes ichthyol in watery solution and in the form of a paste. I have so far made no use of these forms, but I think that where only superficial action is desired it may be preferable to ointments for technical reasons. For many cases, particularly acne sycosis and acne rosacea, I found ichthyol soap very convenient. In this form it may be used either like any other toilet soap, or the foam of it may be allowed to remain on the skin for a short while, or even for many hours, according to the effect desired. The physiological effect of ichthyol, when used externally, can be inferred from its chief quality—that is, to draw oxygen from the tissues. Unna therefore calls it a reducing agent, and places it in the same class with resorcin, pyrogallol and chrysarobin. Its regenerative power on one hand, when used in a mild form; its resolving action on the other hand, when used in full strength; its contracting influence upon bloodvessels, can easily be explained from that one principal quality.

Upon the suggestion of Unna, I have in the last five months prescribed ichthyol also for internal use in some twenty-five cases of chronic skin diseases, with apparently very satisfactory result. At this place I cannot resist the temptation to offer a few remarks in regard to the internal treatment of cutaneous diseases, as this question has recently been much discussed. As is well known, the Vienna school very seldom resorts to it, while American physicians, from their somewhat different ætiological standpoint, mostly depend upon the internal administration of certain drugs, claimed to remove so-called impurities of the blood. Without discussing

this fundamental question here as thoroughly as it would deserve, I may say that I believe in a reasonable internal treatment adapted to the merits of each case, inasmuch as sometimes disorders of internal organs seem to have a causal relation to that of the skin. But the daily routine practice of administering arsenic indiscriminately, even without a proper diagnosis, cannot be too strongly repudiated. In a recent article * G. H. Fox made very timely remarks upon this subject, denouncing in strong terms the injudicious use of arsenic. I heartily concur in his views, and would only add that the same have been fully endorsed by many authorities in this country. While arsenic may have even specific effects in lichen ruber and psoriasis, and may be very useful in some other chronic cases of skin diseases, it is, on the other hand, very often without any effect, but perhaps still oftener aggravates the condition which it was intended to allay. I foresee a far wider field for ichthyol. A number of observations on the excellent results obtained by its use in cases of chronic dyspepsia and rheumatism are already published, and I can add some more made in my own practice. It is therefore obvious that wherever the last mentioned affections appear as complications or causes of cutaneous diseases, the latter will indirectly be beneficially influenced by the internal use of ichthyol. It is as yet rather difficult to determine in what way ichthyol taken internally is capable of affecting the skin itself. Clinical observations, however, make it highly probable that it has a contracting effect upon enlarged blood-vessels of the same, as can be seen in cases of vaso-motor neuroses, e. g. acne rosacea; in such cases

^{*} N. Y. Medical Monthly, No. 1.

especially it is recommended by Unna. Private practice affords very little opportunity to make experiments with new methods or new drugs; I am therefore at a loss to state how much of the result obtained in each case was due to the internal medication, as always topical treatment was mostly relied upon. But in several instances I could clearly trace the disappearance of a chronic catarrh of the stomach or a rheumatic affection to ichthyol. Unna also reports good results in cases of asthma and of general mal-nutrition. Unlike arsenic, ichthyol will never be found to molest even a very delicate stomach, though given in doses up to 1.00 (15 gr.) a day; in fact, my patients never would feel any bad effect whatever from its use. I usually prescribe it in form of capsules, each containing 0.10 (11/2 gr.), three to ten of which are taken daily after meals. For children, or patients who object to pills, a liquid form will be more convenient. The dose for infants will of course be comparatively småller.

The fifty-six cases of eczema, in which I used ichthyol comprise nearly all forms and stages of that protean disease. Unlike tar, it can be very well applied even to weeping surfaces, which will sometimes get dry in one or two days; small vesicles and pustules will disappear much more promptly than by any other treatment. Its reducing power will best be seen in those hard, infiltrated patches that resist so obstinately the usual methods; they will sometimes get paler and softer within a few days. Itching, which in such cases is almost unbearable, will often be promptly relieved by it. Its regenerative power will, on the other hand, be noticed in cases of chronic eczema of the palms and fingers, where even deep fissures will heal up in short time under its application. In two cases of intertrigo on infants, where different methods had done no

good, a 5 per centum ichthyol salve had an almost magical effect after one day. I mention this especially, because Stelwagon, in a note on ichthyol,* says that it is irritating in erythematous eczema. As this writer seems to have seen no positively beneficial effect in the twelve cases of eczema where he tried it. I would like to state here my experience, as follows: In the above mentioned fifty-six cases the effect was excellent in eleven, good in twenty-seven, fair in four, negative in one, and unknown in thirteen cases. The strength used was, on the head and face, from 5 to 10 per centum; on other parts of the body, usually from 10 to 30 per centum; in erythematous forms it should not exceed 5 per centum. Zinc ointment was mostly used as a base. An addition of 5 to 10 per centum salicylic acid often seemed to increase the efficacy in old, infiltrated places. I will not weary you with many illustrations; allow me to cite just two.

I. Mr. E. F. H., 49 years, merchant, had been suffering from chronic eczema for twelve years; it mostly affected the hands and the anus. Chronic dyspepsia; otherwise healthy. When I first saw him his disease was in a very aggravated condition, and presented the following appearance: June 13th, 1886. The entire right hand was considerably swollen, reddened and painful; covered all over with vesicles in all stages of development; some larger blebs filled with purulent contents; eczema vesiculosum of the left hand in minor degree; eczema erythematosum of the neck; eczema madidans on forehead, chin and scrotum. Zinc ointment with an addition of 10 per centum ichthyol was applied to all the affected parts, except the right hand, for which cold applications of thymol 1:1000 were used, by which the pain and swelling were diminished after two days;

^{*} Note on drugs. Journal of C. and V. Dis., November, 1886.

ichthyol salve was then likewise used here. The skin all over the body was so irritable that slight scratching would suffice to produce an erythematous or even a bullous eruption. But the use of the ichthyol salve would usually cause the latter to disappear in one or two days.

June 18th. No new blisters coming out on the right hand; pain, redness and swelling considerably decreased; the smaller vesicles mostly dried, whereas the larger ones became denuded. All other affected spots are nearly healed, except that a slight scaling has set in.

June 22d. All the open places on the right hand are covered with new epidermis, while the old skin peals off abundantly. Ichthyol internally, 0.30 pro die.

June 28th. Slight scaling on the formerly affected parts. Patient feels very comfortable. Ichthyol capsules, 0.60 daily.

August 23d. Patient has felt excellently during the last two months. His dyspepsia does not trouble him. He assures me that he never was so rapidly cured of any of the outbreaks of his disease.

October 13th. Patient has continued to take ichthyol internally up to now, and feels first rate. There is no sign of his former trouble.

II. Rev. M. N. Chronic eczema of the right lower leg for four years. Twenty-three physicians have been consulted during this time without favorable result.

Status praes. February 13, 1886. The lower part of the right leg very much reddened, somewhat swollen, painful and itchy; covered with small pustules. An examination of the hairs forming the center of these pustules showed them to be in a similar condition as is found in sycosis. The treatment consisted in epilation of most of the affected hairs

and application of the following salve: cold-cream, 40.00; ichthyol, 4.00; acid. salicyl., 2.00. No internal treatment.

February 19. The pustules have disappeared, the skin generally paler, no pain, little itching. Prescribed a 15 per centum ichthyol salve, similar to the first.

March 5, when the patient was seen for the fourth time, no abnormity could be noticed except a slight redness of the skin. The hairs extracted apparently sound.

I lately heard from the patient, who has been all right since.

Sycosis.—All of the above mentioned eleven cases were rather severe and inveterate, so that epilation could not be dispensed with. This method and the use of ichthyol soap and a 10 per centum ichthyol ointment had an excellent effect in four, a good one in seven cases after one to three weeks. The combination with tar-oil and overfatted green soap, recommended by Unna, seemed to me to have an irritating effect.

In acne vulgaris I did not notice any remarkable influence of ichthyol, until I used it internally, when it seemed to have a decidedly beneficial effect in three cases.

In acne rosacea it worked very satisfactorily in five, remarkably well in two cases. One of these two, the wife of a well-known physician of this city, had suffered from the disease for several years and presented, when I first saw her, the typical picture of the more severe form of acne rosacea. Besides a 10 per centum ichthyol-salve and sulphur-naphtol soap, mechanical treatment was made use of from time to time. After several weeks a decided improvement was noticeable. The lady has now been under my observation for nearly one year, and during this time has gradually

improved until now, when recovery seems almost perfect. No internal medication whatever had been used; only of late ichthyol pills were recommended to check a possible relapse.

A similar success was obtained in the other case of a gentleman—a prominent member of the legal profession—who for many years was suffering from that disease. He came under my observation in October, 1885, and was cured after six weeks. He had no relapse during the last year.

In three out of the four cases of herpes tonsurans a combination of equal parts of oil of cade, green soap, ichthyol and vaseline had a very decidedly positive effect. In one of them a cure was effected within one week, after many remedies had been tried in vain.

In four cases of small circumscribed *telangiectasis* in the face (so-called rosacea) it had no effect; I suppose because the salve used was too mild to exert a contracting effect upon the ectatic blood vessels.

In *prurigo* it was used combined with naphthol; the effect was very good in the above two cases.

In *psoriasis* ichthyol was only used intermediately, to alleviate the inflammation produced by chrysarobin. In one case, where arsenic could not be given, the ichthyol pills seemed to work very nicely.

In regard to the rest of the above mentioned cases, I would not like to draw any conclusions, because of the small number of observations. Only one case seems to me worth mentioning; that is one of acne varioliformis.

A gentleman of thirty-eight had suffered for two years from repeated outbreaks of that rather rare and troublesome affection, which had left numerous scars on the scalp and forehead. In this case a 10 per centum ichthyol salve, with an addition of 5 per centum hydrarg. ammoniat., made the fresh pustules dry up within four days, and the remaining scars were very insignificant. From a continued use, the whole scalp, formerly very red, got paler, and even the old scars were much less visible.

It is a question of time and continued observations to clearly define the limits in which ichthyol will find its useful application. I hardly think that it will have to share the fate of so many other new drugs, which at first found their enthusiastic admirers, and, after considerable disappointment, sank into oblivion; but I believe, confidently, that it will gain a permanent place in dermatological therapeutics. I am only sorry that a man of Piffard's reputation unjustly places ichthyol in the same rank with cuticura and similar proprietary compounds, because, unfortunately, some enterprising firm in New York seems to have extensively advertised it.* In this city, at least, quackery does not seem to have taken hold of the new remedy. As far as I am concerned, I would by no means, after my experience, like to miss ichthyol from my armamentarium.

125 State Street.

^{*} Note on drugs .- Jour, of C. and V. Dis. No. X., 86.

Prophylaxis in Rhinitis Sympathetica.* By S. O. Richey, M.D.

In the evolution of medicine, gradual progress has been made to the present development of preventive measures in the management of disease, the practice of which, in its perfection, will be the science of the future. Prevention of disease, and the structural changes consequent, will, when we have the necessary knowledge, be more conservative, more simple, and more agreeable than our efforts to meet the disease in human bodies, disguised often by a complexity of symptoms, and to limit or prevent pathological metamorphoses.

Any rational being will prefer the proverbial preventive "ounce" rather than the "pound," later, and not upon the basis of quantity alone,—though even that might be deemed sufficient,—but upon that of the disagreeable environment and consequences of the disease.

There appear in medical journals from time to time elaborate discussions upon the most efficient means of relief of the *local* symptoms of hay-fever, or rhinitis sympathetica, by therapeutic measures or surgical procedures *after* structural changes have taken place in the nares; but very little is said in regard to prophylaxis, except the suggestion of change of climate—an offspring of the "pollen" dogma.

It is important that we get the idea of pollen out of our minds and accept the rational explanation, as will be done by all sooner or later, that *rhinitis sympathetica* is a reflex affection, or a peripheral expression of a more central disturbance, the impairment of the balance of circulation in the cervical plexus. Thus we have the influenza: the cause being slight,

^{*}McKenzie—Transactions of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of the State of Maryland, 1885.

and acting interruptedly, the effect is a number of slight influenzas. The same cause acting persistently and gravely for a greater or less time produces what is called "a severe cold."

What is the cause of so distressing an affection? If it were pollen would it not be found among herbivora, and as much so during the winter season as in the summer among those domestic animals which are stabled and fed upon cured grass, from which the pollen is more likely to escape, and in greater abundance, than when it is green?

Insufficient protection of the body, and especially the spinal region, from decided and quickly repeated alternations of temperature is the initial cause.

In 1880-81 my attention was fixed by finding myself a sufferer from this affection. At that time the tone of my nervous system was very low, but not for the first time. I was also alternating between the city and the country, my days being spent in the city and my nights in the country, and in this I saw no sufficient cause for the disease, for others did the same without suffering, and I recovered with both these alleged causes persisting. Writers on the subject claim both as predisposing influences, the first of which I accept, and the latter I repudiate. With the dread of its direful consequences I naturally watched its course closely, in my own case, and studied the symptoms of the approaching crises until they became familiar to me. I looked up my books again for a hope of relief, but found it always resolved itself into seeking another climate for the season, and this my work would not allow. I found, too, that a change to the same place did not relieve all persons so affected, and that sometimes the same person would not be relieved at the same place, twice: These facts induced me to doubt whether any one would be safe from the supposed cause of the affection

anywhere, until I met a young man who told me that he always found relief by spending the day in a boat on the lake, fishing, for there the *pollen* could not reach him. I then asked him if he wore the same clothes while fishing as at other times, and found that he replaced his *cotton-gauze under-shirt* with a woolen shirt.

As I was then wearing the cotton-gauze undershirt, and remembering the slight creeping chills up my spine and at the nape of my neck prodromic of an attack, I put on a flannel undershirt, and with the exception of one or two attacks, immediately afterward, I have been well ever since.

The flannel being too warm for comfort in this climate during July, August and September, in looking through the furnishing establishments, I found an undershirt resembling in texture a fish-net, called in the shops "French netted goods," which I substituted with success and with perfect comfort. It does not, in its continuity, lie close to the body and rapidly absorb moisture, like the gauze; if it becomes damp, it does not dry out so rapidly, and thus by rapid and frequent evaporation, cause alternations of temperature and disturb the circulation of the spinal region with the reflex symptoms called rose-cold.

Those who change their abode in search of relief, go to a higher altitude or a more northern latitude, and while they do not thus escape "pollen," they find it comfortable and often necessary to wear more protective clothing next the skin, and in this fact, I believe, is to be found the cause of their relief. Any kind of material next the skin which will, like gauze, absorb sweat and dry out quickly, would produce the same consequences. One does not have this affection in the winter season, when well clad, unless from force of habit or an association of ideas in an impressionable individual. The affection

is less frequent among women, because they perspire less and less frequently.

In the usual course of things my opportunities for observation of this affection are very limited as compared with those of others, being confined to those in whom it has caused tubal catarrh, whose impaired hearing could not be properly improved without removing the cause—the immediate cause being the rhinitis, producing congestion of the lining membrane by extension to the tube; the mediate cause being a disturbance of the spinal circulation. Laborers, especially in the country, in the midst of pollen, are less liable to have this trouble, for, being accustomed to constant healthful exercise, they have a more stable circulation, which is not so easily thrown out of balance.

While eight or ten cases are too limited a number to establish a theory, yet when taken with the fact that no one of them has failed in getting relief by *counsel* in the item of dress, they make this subject worthy of consideration.

It is not my object to discuss the treatment of symptoms, or the surgical management of nasal structural changes resulting from the persistence of this affection.

Let me ask, only, if it is best to *suppress* these peripheral manifestations by the use of cocaine, or the thermo-cautery? May not the affection, in such event, indicate its presence in some other and more serious way: in petit mal, for instance?

Is it not more exact and more scientific to find and remove such basal cause?

Washington, D. C.

EDIMORIAL.

PASTEURISM.

At a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences, in Paris, M. Pasteur presented in a communication to that body his latest conclusions as to the methods and results of antirabic inoculations. During the year ending November 1st, 1886, only three persons died in the hospitals of Paris from hydrophobia. Of these two had not been treated by Pasteur's method, and the third had been subjected to a form of treatment since abandoned as insufficient. During the previous five years sixty persons had died in the hospitals, and during the year ending November 1st, 1885, thirty-one had died. In all, 2,190 persons were treated during the year. In France and Algeria, 1,700, of whom ten died. It is not certain that every one of these persons was bitten by a rabid animal, but as M. Pasteur very justly remarks, it is almost certain that the larger portion of individuals bitten were subjected to treatment, and yet there were known to have been seventeen deaths from hydrophobia in France and Algeria in addition to the ten of the 1,700 cases treated. Taken together, these facts seem to demonstrate the efficacy of the treatment. Grave doubts have been entertained as to the safety of inoculations such as Pasteur has practiced. It has been thought that the introduction into the human organism of an emulsion of the spinal cord of an animal, dead from such a disease, in the light of what we know of infection and septic processes, must be dangerous. In answer to such an objection Pasteur points to his more than 2,000 cases in a single year, with not a single accident. The failures he attributes to the fact that the process has been too slow. When the wounds are upon the face, the most dangerous location, or are deep upon other parts of the body, he proceeds to repeat the inoculations, commencing with cords of twelve days, say at I P.M., of ten days at 4 P.M., and of eight days at 9 P.M. On the next day he operates with cords of six, of four and of two days at the same hours. The third day he inoculates with the cord of an animal dead only one day, that is with a practically fresh cord. This process is repeated, commencing with a cord of eight days, and coming down to the fresh cord again, and in this way, to use his own words, "there are made three treatments in ten days, carrying each one to the fresh cord." He believes some, at least, of his failures have been due to the fact that the inoculations have not been made with sufficient frequency, or, in other words, the fresh virus has not been reached early enough.

There seems to be no longer room for doubt as to the fact that this process does prevent the development of rabies in the human subject bitten by rabid animals. Animals inoculated with the rabic virus are also protected by *Pasteurism*. The explanation of this fact, however, is still to be sought. Neither chemistry nor the microscope has revealed the morbific agent or thrown light upon what seems to be a curious fact, namely, that the repetition of the virus produces an arrest of the incubating process. This is not homœopathic, but idiopathic. It would seem that the poet's lines,

"Shallow draughts intoxicate the brain, Drinking largely sobers us again,"

literally becomes true.

THE TUBERCLE BACILLUS.

In quite a large number of cases of tuberculosis and chronic bronchitis the greater portion of the sputum is produced by the mucous membranes, and the Bacillus Tuberculosis, though present, either is not found, or is found only after a long search. In the Berliner Klin. Wochenschrift for October 18th, 1886, Biedert suggests the following method by which time is saved and greater certainty reached:

A dessert spoonful of the sputum is mixed with a dessert spoonful of water and 15 drops sodic hydrate. This is boiled till the sputum is all dissolved, when 4 dessert spoonfuls of water are added and the whole again boiled until a homogeneous fluid with only a few floating particles is obtained. If, when cold, the solution is not perfectly thin, 3 to 6 dessert spoonfuls of water are again added. The whole is then put into a conical glass and allowed to stand from two to three days. By this time the bacilli, if present, have fallen to the bottom of the glass. The supernatant fluid is carefully drawn off and the deposit in the bottom will contain all of the bacilli in the whole mass of sputum used. A small quantity of egg albumen may be added to the deposit for the purpose of fixing it to the cover glass during the process of coloring. When the bacillus is not found by the ordinary methods in suspected cases this procedure may help largely in reaching a correct diagnosis.

ZONULAR CATARACT AND DENTAL MALFORMATIONS.

The October number (1886) of the Ophthalmic Review contains an article on "Zonular Cataract and Dental Malformations," by John B. Storey, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., in which he calls attention to the frequency with which dental deformities occur in this form of cataract. He quotes the views of Professor Horner and Professor Arlt as to the causes which produce these defects in the lens and the teeth. It is stated that Professor Horner believed that the connection between zonular cataract and the peculiar dental malformations which so frequently accompany it, is due to the influence of infantile rickets, and that Professor Arlt is of the opinion that it was due to infantile convulsions. Out of sixtyfive cases of zonular cataract mentioned by Horner and Arlt, forty-eight had a history of infantile convulsions, and in Horner's thirty-six cases, twenty-five had dental defects, sixteen had malformed crania, and four had imperfect mental development.

Mr. Storey also reports nine cases, in corroboration of Horner's observations, six of them with marked dental defects. In describing the malformations of the teeth he says "the dental deformity must not be confounded with that ascribed by Mr. Hutchinson to congenital syphilis. It is, on the contrary, precisely similar to what Hutchinson has attributed to the use of mercury in infancy, * * * which, by setting up stomatitis, produces the dental abnormality."

It is extremely difficult to distinguish between the characteristic features of dental malformations ascribed by Hutchinson to the effects of inherited syphilis and those due to the effects of the prolonged administration of mercury in early infancy.

The semi-lunar notch found in the cutting edges of the

permanent upper central incisors, "the test teeth," has been considered as diagnostic of inherited syphilis, but inasmuch as it is unusual to find such cases in which there is not also the history of mercurial impression, it requires strong evidence to enable one to assert that such defects, in the development of these teeth, can be the result of no other cause than syphilis.

The teeth which are most often defective in development are the first permanent molars and the six anterior teeth, viz.: the incisors and cuspids. Calcification begins in these teeth during the first two years of life, or, to be more precise, in the molars, at birth, in the incisors during the first year, and in the cuspids during the second, and this is the period when the impress of disease is most marked upon the developing teeth.

Syphilis seems to have a special predilection for the tegumentary system, and often acts with great virulence upon these tissues. As the teeth are a part of this system, we can the more readily understand how nutrition of the gums of these organs would be for a considerable time perverted, and result in defective development.

The too common use of large doses of mercury in certain infantile disorders, the long-continued administration of the drug which is necessarily practiced in the treatment of syphilis, lowers the vital forces and produces a depressing effect upon the nutritive functions. Cases could be cited of results from the administration of this drug and other influences in which syphilis undoubtedly did not exist, that would make it impossible from the teeth alone to determine that the results were not due to the syphilitic virus.

On the other hand, the malformations of the teeth described by Arlt as due to infantile convulsions, by Horner to infantile rickets, and Hutchinson to the effects of mercury, cannot in many instances be distinguished from those due to the influences of the eruptive fevers, typhoid fever, or in fact any disease sufficiently severe in its character to markedly disturb the nutritive processes.

Careful observation will bear out the statement that any influence, no matter what, which depresses or arrests the process of nutrition during the calcification of the teeth, leaves upon them the indelible evidence of defective development, and the more prolonged and severe is this depression of funcon the more marked are the defects: while a correct knowledge of the periods at which calcification of the various permanent teeth begins and terminates, furnishes data from which a very reliable estimate may be made as to the time—at least to within a few months—when the disturbance to nutrition occurred.

SOCIETY REPORTS.

CHICAGO MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Stated Meeting, November 1st, 1886.—E. J. Doering, M.D., President, in the chair.

PROFESSOR ALBERT E. HOADLEY read a report of five cases of stricture of the rectum, with remarks on the treatment of the more severe forms, which appears in full in another part of the Medical Journal and Examiner.

DISCUSSION.

Dr. J. Frank thought that if the author had divided his paper into relief for malignant strictures, and treatment for non-malignant strictures, it would have been a better classification. He had not had much experience with malignant strictures, but had divided one in the manner described by the author, by cutting down through the cellular tissue. He thought there was little danger in performing the operation, and was surprised at the small amount of hæmorrhage. But the benefit from the operation lasted only for a short time; there was relief at first, but in six or eight weeks the same symptoms returned. Even in extirpated cancerous growths, as far as his information went, they generally return within a year. He had had one case in which the whole cancerous growth was extirpated, but in six or eight months it commenced to return and in a year's time the patient died with cancer. He thought that in dividing the strictures care must be taken not to go too far up the bowel, or too deep, as the peritoneum might be cut into.

PROFESSOR HOADLEY, in closing the discussion, said: Dr. Frank suggests that we be careful in dividing the strictures high up; if we do not divide them higher than we can reach with the finger, dividing them in the posterior line, there is little danger of opening the peritoneal cavity. The peritoneum does not come down, as a rule, where it can be reached with the finger. In regard to hæmorrhage, those cases sometimes bleed profusely even though they are divided right in the median line, where we least expect to find blood vessels; the tissues become vascular, new vessels form, and it is necessary to tampon the wound, and in doing so it is best to put in a tube to relieve the bowels of gas. The suggestion made in reference to the division of the paper is quite proper; perhaps it would have been better to have said, report of cases illustrating a treatment. The treatment is palliative in malignant strictures, and in nonmalignant strictures sometimes effects a cure. In answer to the question, "How many inches up may we go?" it is a rather difficult matter to reach the peritoneum of the posterior wall of the rectum with the finger, even if the sphincter is divided; one can reach about four inches with the finger by pushing hard; it would be unsafe to divide a stricture further than one could reach with his finger. Even the inferior mesenteric artery (superior hæmorrhoidal) comes down sometimes, before it bifurcates into the lateral branches, within reach of the finger, and may be divided, but that is no drawback to the operation, because one can put a tampon into the rectum so firmly that all hæmorrhage can be perfectly controlled, and on the next day one may remove about half of the tampon to relieve tension, and the remaining half will tumble out itself three or four days later. It has been his experience as well as that of others that the vessels there can be controlled with the tampon very securely and with perfect safety. It is best to prepare for it and always tampon where one makes that division, because moderate hæmorrhage is sometimes quite persistent.

Dr. A. J. Ochsner read a report of a case of actinomycosis, which appears elsewhere in this number of the Jour-NAL AND EXAMINER.

DISCUSSION.

Professor R. H. Babcock said, the case is one of exceeding interest from its rarity, and particularly as it is a case occurring in this country, and one of very few that have been recorded, and in this case the diagnosis is so unquestionable that the interest is all the greater. We know that in cattle the disease is manifested by tumefaction in various organs, whereas in human beings it is by suppuration and metastatic abscesses. The disease in the human being may affect any of the organs, not merely the lungs, but particularly the viscera of the abdomen. He inquired of Dr. Ochsner if there are signs of the disease having attacked other parts of the body than those mentioned, any symptoms which lead him to infer that the digestive organs or the stomach are infected.

DR. R. TILLEY said, this is certainly one of the most interesting questions that has been brought before the society for a considerable time. In the case presented to-night the disease seems to have originated in the antrum, and is therefore especially interesting to those engaged in treating affections of the nose and throat, and of the teeth. As in the history of this case there was a considerable amount of pain associated with the eyes, it is of interest to the ophthalmologist, and as it is now associated with the lungs, it is of interest to those

engaged in the study of affections of the lungs. As this case, together with the last case presented to the society, in all probability constitute the only indisputable cases that have appeared in English literature, he believed it would be of sufficient interest to the society to ask Dr. Ochsner to carry the investigation still further and try to produce the disease by inoculation on one of the lower animals. He would move. at the proper time, that the society place at Dr. Ochsner's disposal the necessary funds, and he would suggest that Dr. Ochsner accompany his report with a diagram of the fungus as it appears under the microscope. He had looked at the various schematic sketches that are published, and he claims that it would be absolutely impossible for anyone with only the information afforded in these articles, without further study, to diagnosticate the fungi as they appear in the specimens presented. In Dr. Belfield's book, the diagram is more in correspondence with those we see to-night, but those that are in Councilman's article in Wood's Reference Handbook certainly do not present such an appearance.

Dr. J. D. Skeer inquired as to the condition of the lung at the present time, whether cavernous or indurated.

DR. FRANK BILLINGS endorsed the remarks of Dr. Tilley, and thought the society should afford Dr. Ochsner means to carry on the investigation. It is not quite settled how this fungus is carried from one tissue to another; in one case it has been proven that it was carried to the heart by ulceration into one of the jugular veins, and it is known that it will spread through contiguous tissue as through the diaphragm from the pleural cavity to the peritoneal cavity. A pure cultivation of the fungus has been made at Berlin.

DR. HAROLD N. MOYER said there is great uncertainty as to the manner in which the fungus obtains access to the tissues.

He would ask Dr. Ochsner if there is anything in the history of this case that would clear up that point. Two very interesting cases have been recently reported, in one case lung actinomycosis was diagnosticated during life, and after death of the patient a large actinomycotic mass was found in the lower portion of the upper lobe of the left lung, and in the center of the mass a piece of tooth was found. Israel (Center, Bl. f. d. Med. Wesseusch) demonstrated actinomycosis in the sputum of that case, and so far as he knew it is the only case on record in which a diagnosis was made from the sputum. The other case bears on the manner in which the fungus obtains access to the tissues and is reported by Soltmann (Jahrb. f. Kinderhkde). A child while at play swallowed a head of what is known as fox-grass, which was followed by severe pain, difficulty in swallowing, and difficulty in respiration. In a few weeks the head of grass was discharged in an abscess at the left of the vertebral column. In less than six months this case developed actinomycosis. The theory of Israel regarding the first case is that the parasite was carried by the piece of tooth directly into the lung. In the second case the fox grass undoubtedly carried it directly into the mediastinum, which was followed by secondary involvement of the tissue of the lung.

Professor W. T. Belfield said, he would like to say in reference to Dr. Tilley's proposition, that experiments on the cultivation or transmission of this fungus ought to be made from fungi obtained from animals and not from man; if from the latter, from pus taken from abscess cavities around the jaws. The reason is that fungi obtained in the sputum are far more delicate in appearance and for preservation. He has found that after a few days they disappear, or at least are extremely hard to find, and it is stated by those who

have had a great deal of experience that the fungi obtained from the sputum are not so robust as those obtained from cattle or from pus-cavities, aside from the air passages, in man. In justice to Dr. Shirmer, he would say that in the case reported by him, the fungus was recognized in the sputum and a diagnosis of lung-actinomycosis was made.

DR. R. TILLEY said, the question with him was not that of producing the best possible sample of the fungus, but to place cases in question beyond dispute and give the society further opportunities of studying the question. Necessarily American physicians must be ignorant of the question as a whole, because it is impossible to get that accurate information from literature that we can get from the study of the manifestations of the disease. He would not discriminate between this case and that of Dr. Schirmer; on the contrary, if there is a probability of developing the fungus from pus, and an animal is chosen, he did not think there would be any objection to taking samples from both cases to inoculate the same animal.

DR. Ochsner in closing the discussion said, as far as we know at present there is no evidence of the existence of actinomycosis in any other portion of the body; the probable reason of this is the fact that the patient has been exceedingly careful never to swallow any of the discharge from the abscess or any of the sputum. The accumulation of the fungus in the lungs is probably not sufficient for ulceration to have taken place into any of the other organs. The amount of sputum during twenty-four hours is between one and two ounces, and some days there will be one or two of these accumulations of actinomyces of considerable size and a few very small points, and on some days it is impossible

to demonstrate actinomycosis. On Saturday there were a dozen quite large accumulations and quite a number of small ones; so that judging from the number we find in the sputum, and from the physical signs, which are a decrease in the motion of the left side, mucous râles, and very slight dullness on the left side above the fifth rib, the accumulations are not very great, and we do not find any signs of the existence of actinomyces in any other organ, which answers also Dr. Skeer's question concerning the condition of the lungs at present. Concerning the access to the tissue, the patient had teeth removed from the left side of the upper jaw a number of times, during which time he was constantly handling animals suffering from lumpy-jaw, which is the same as actinomycosis in man, and constantly handling objects that came in contact with these animals. Another point of interest which might give us some light as to the possible introduction of actinomycosis in man is this: The patient told him that on the farm whenever one animal has lumpy-jaw, a number of animals are very likely to have it soon after. This happens generally in the spring of the year, or late in winter, when animals are likely to rub their necks on the fences. He thinks these animals with lumpyjaw rubbing their necks on the fences are likely to leave some of the actinomyces and the healthy animals are likely to scratch their skin and break the hide, and in that way become infected. The plants are exceedingly small and could with great ease be introduced into the mouth and the cavities of the teeth, or into the jaw from which teeth had been extracted. Drs. Ross and Robison are treating the patient at present by means of the pneumatic cabinet, introducing into the lungs 1-1000 solution of bi-chloride of

mercury. It seems that more of the actinomyces have been coughed up since this treatment began, but it has been of such short duration that nothing certain can yet be said.

THE COMMITTEE ON PATHOLOGY

reported through Professor W. T. Belfield the examination of the case of actinomycosis hominis presented to the society on September 6th. The patient is a man about twenty-five years old, emaciated and feeble. The lateral diameter of the neck is considerably increased by inflammatory thickening of the superficial cervical tissues, which are hard and unyielding; on either side of the neck is a jagged scar and small fistulous opening from which issues a slight serous discharge. The jaws could be separated to only a slight extent; but so far as could be determined, the mouth and throat presented nothing abnormal; no carious teeth were detected.

Dullness on percussion and broncho-vesicular breathing were found over the apex of each lung; on the left side in the supra-clavicular region and first intercostal space anteriorly; on the right side down to the third rib.

The patient coughs frequently and occasionally raises considerable sputum. About an ounce of sputum was collected from which slides were prepared and several specimens of actinomyces were detected.

On September 28th an incision was made in the left side of the neck, giving exit to a small quantity of pus, containing actinomyces. It was the opinion of Professor Belfield that this patient is the subject of actinomycosis.

Professor Belfield said that he had been informally requested by the President to examine the case presented by

Dr. Ochsner, and had found the patient exactly as described. He thought there was no question about the genuineness of the specimens exhibited. The diagnosis rested altogether on the detection of the fungi in the sputum, because if that were absent the physical signs might be due to some other cause, but he thought the physical signs in this case were caused by the fungi in the lungs.

On motion of Dr. Tilley the sum of fifty dollars was appropriated for the purpose of making a series of experiments with actinomyces.

THE CHICAGO SOCIETY OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOLOGY met on June 8th at the Tremont House. E. L. Holmes, M.D., in the chair.

Dr. H. M. Starkey presented three cases of congenital ectopia lentis, with the following histories:

- 1. Mrs. Joseph Peltier, widow, age forty-four. Congenital ectopia lentis of both eyes, and the mobility of the eye-balls slightly diminished. Tension normal in both eyes. Right eye—the lens was cataractous. Vision=perception of light. Left eye—Vision=20-200 with + 5.5 D.=20-50. Ophthalmoscopic examination showed the fundus to be normal. Accommodation was nil. Lenses dislocated upwards and backwards. The irides and the lenses were quite tremulous. The patient was given + 5.5 D. for the distance, + 9 D. for close work.
- 2. Gertrude Peltier, a daughter, age sixteen. Double ectopia lentis, backwards and upwards, with tremulous irides and lenses. Her general health was good. There was slight photophobia. Vision—right eye, 4-50 with + 7 D.=

20-30; left eye, 2-50 with + 7 D.=20-70, and the accommodation of both eyes=0. Tension was normal. On ophthalmoscopic examination the fundus was found to be normal. She was given + 7 D. oc. u. for distance, + 12 D. oc. u. for reading.

3. Aaron Peltier, a son, age seven. Both lenses were dislocated upwards and backwards. Tension was normal. Ophthalmoscopic examination showed the same. Mobility was impaired, irregular and discordant. Accommodation=0. Vision—right eye=20-120 with + 8 D.=20-60; left eye=20-120 with + 8 D.=20-50. Prescribed + 7 D. oc. u. for distance. Another son, aged sixteen, had been examined by Dr. Boerne Bettman, who found both lenses likewise dislocated (upwards). The boy's vision was materially improved by a + 8 D. lens for each eye.

After an examination of these interesting cases by the members of the society, Professor W. T. Montgomery read the following papers:

OPERATION BY LIGATURE FOR ENTROPION OF LOWER LID.

About two months ago, an old man came under my care who was suffering from complete inversion of all his eyelids and marked narrowing of the palpebral fissures. These conditions had existed for a considerable time, so that the patient was almost blind from pannus. Under ether I made canthotomy on both eyes and Hotz's operation on both upper lids, intending to make this latter operation on both lower lids. Owing to the tediousness of the Hotz operation and to the fact that it is not nearly so effectual in correcting entropion of the lower as of the upper lid, it occurred to me to try the effect of a ligature introduced as follows: A strong curved needle was threaded with number 9 surgeon's silk and introduced at

a point four to five millimeters below the puncta and passed deeply through the tissues of the lid and brought out at a point four to five millimeters below the outer extremity of the lid. The included tissue was then firmly ligated. The inverted lid was completed everted but the ligation produced such an unsightly puckering of the lid that I was tempted to remove the ligature, but did not. Both lower lids were treated in the same manner. The ligatures were removed on the third or fourth day, or as soon as suppuration began, and the unsightly puckering soon disappeared, the lids assuming a natural position. This patient remained under observation about one month and there was no appearance of return of his entropion. I have made the operation about fifteen times with very satisfactory results so far. It has only failed in correcting the entropion in one case, and this was such an aggravated case that I was not surprised at failure at the first attempt. I ligated again, and the lid is now everted. The effect of the ligature is modified by the amount of tissue included. It is too early yet to speak assuredly of the ultimate success of this operation. I have not the temerity to call it new. I can only say it is new to me, and being so very simple, if it is even as successful as other operations in correcting entropion of the lower lid, it commends itself.

He then exhibited a patient with the following history:

Eugene Darust, age twenty-seven, baker, ten years ago received a blow on the left eye with the fist or some blunt instrument which knocked him down. In falling, the left temporal region struck the flat surface of a stone. Considerable swelling and ecchymosis of the lids followed these injuries, but soon began to clear up, and in a short time there was only a slight thickening of the lids remaining. This

slight thickening did not noticeably change until about three years ago, when it began to gradually increase and the surface to assume a knotty appearance. The trouble, though slowly increasing, had not given the patient any inconvenience, except its unsightly appearance, up to the time I first saw him, on December 4th, 1885. At this time the upper lid was so much thickened that there was almost complete ptosis. The external surface presented a markedly nodular and purple appearance, due to varicose enlargement of bloodvessels; on the inner surface of the upper lid near the external angle was found a varicose nodule, the size of a pea. The entire palpebral conjunctiva presented an engorged appearance. The lower lid was also considerably thickened by the varicose engorgement. Decided pulsation was felt over the entire upper lid and extending into the temporal region on this side, but was most marked over the outer angle of the orbit and over the supraorbital foramen. Firm pressure at these points arrested pulsation in the lid and lessened the vascular engorgement. I informed the patient that I thought an operation, ligating the principal branches of the anterior temporal artery and the supraorbital artery, with the free use of the electrolysis needle, would relieve him; but was not certain of effecting a cure by these means, though I endeavored to impress upon the patient the importance of the affliction and urged the immediate necessity of the operation. I did not see him again until May 9th.

He then stated that three weeks previous the noduli on the inside of the lid ruptured and he almost bled to death before the hemorrhage was stilled. Dr. J. J. M. Angear, who was called to see him at the time, has since informed me that he attempted to ligate the main branch of the tem-

poral subcutaneously, but as this did not check the bleeding he ligated the ruptured vessel on the inside of the lid. Dr. Angear was of the opinion that the varix was largely supplied by branches of the lachrymal artery, and that ligation of the common carotid would have to be made. At the time of the second visit of the patient the condition of the lids was not materially changed, but the patient was still anæmic and weak from loss of blood. I advised the operation which had been urged in the first place, but warned him that it might not prove successful, and in that case ligation of the common carotid would have to be made. The patient acquiesced. On May 11, under ether, four subcutaneous ligatures, one including the pulsating branches of the supraorbital, and three along the course of the temporal branches. were applied. The first of these was introduced at the outer rim of the orbit, and the other two at intervals of one-fourth of an inch towards the temporal region. After the sutures were introduced pulsation was only detected at the outer extremity of the lid in a small area. A fine electrolysis. needle was then inserted about a dozen times in different directions through the engorged tissues of the upper lid. Cold water dressings were applied, and the patient was ordered to be kept quiet in his room and friends were warned of the possibility of secondary hemorrhage. Considerable reaction followed the operation. The ligatures had all come away by the end of twelve days without any hemorrhage, and by the end of three weeks the swelling had subsided to a degree less than existed before the operation. The surface of the lid is now smooth. Pulsation is still felt over the outer rim of the orbit and the eye-lids are still much thickened. On June 1 electrolysis was again freely used. without employing an anæsthetic, and but little reaction followed.

At present, June 8th, the lids have not entirely recovered from the last operation, but I think it is safe to say that it will be followed by further improvement.

It is still a question as to whether a cure will be effected by the means instituted. I present the patient for your inspection and advice. I am encouraged to give further trial to electrolysis. We all know that ligation of the common carotid is a hazardous operation, and is not always successful in curing aneurisms about the orbit. There is no doubt about the aneurism in this case, starting from the injury of ten years ago, and it is my opinion that the injury was primarily directed to the branches of the middle temporal. It was upon this opinion that my hope of benefiting the patient by the treatment detailed was based.

The third annual meeting of the society was held on October 12th, at the Tremont house, F. C. Hotz, M.D., in the chair.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Dr. E. L. Holmes; vice-president, Dr. Lyman Ware; secretary and treasurer, Dr. Boerne Bettman.

Dr. F. C. Hotz then read a paper entitled

THE RATIONAL TREATMENT OF PATIENTS AFTER CATARACT OPERATIONS.

Though the safety of the eye is of prime importance, we must, in our anxiety for the recovery of this organ, not entirely disregard the comfort of the patient, for we have no right to deprive our patients of any comfort which does not disturb the healing process. The usual treatment after cataract operations is anything but pleasant to the patient, and many dread the confinement to bed, and in a dark room; worse

than the operation itself. If it can be shown that such measures are superfluous, they should be abandoned.

When a wound is carefully cleansed and thoroughly disinfected, and its edges are nicely approximated, it will heal by first union, provided the close adaptation of its edges is not disturbed by external violence or by muscular tractions. Rest of the wounded part is the first condition for kind healing. But to rest the eyeball it is not necessary to put the patient to bed; we can secure the necessary rest for the operated eve. i. e., we suspend the functions of the ocular muscles and immobilize the eyelids by bandaging both eyes. As long as they are closed they remain comparatively motionless. The bandage over both eyes accomplishes this result just as well whether the patient is in bed or sitting in a chair. The confinement to bed, therefore, is irrational, and the recumbent posture is not only of no advantage, but may even disturb the healing, because it favors the flow of blood to the head; consequently congestion of the ocular tissues is more likely to occur in the recumbent posture than when the patient is sitting up.

The uselessness of darkening the room will be apparent to everyone who will bandage his own eyes just in the same manner as we dress the eyes after cataract operations. The bandage shuts off the light so thoroughly that we will be unable to tell whether the room is light or dark. To the patient it is immaterial, but to his attendant it is a great comfort to have light in the room.

In regard to the dressing there is a difference of opinion: the majority of oculists employing the pads and bandage; some closing the eyelids only by strips of plaster, and others discarding all dressings.

If we dispense with the dark room, we cannot leave the

eyes without dressing, because the winking of the eyelids and the constant rotations of the eyeball would disturb the wound and cause a good deal of irritation.

The plaster strips overcome this difficulty; but they do not give the eye any protection against mechanical insults which might cause a re-opening of the freshly united wound. The bandage with padding of absorbent cotton or any other soft material secures to the eye rest and protection against accidents and is therefore to be recommended as the most rational dressing. The flannel roller is open to the objection of being easily disarranged by the movements of the head on the pillow; but a roller of mosquito netting or Swiss gauze applied wet forms, when dry, an immovable bandage which does not become loose, and keeps nicely adjusted for any desired length of time.

The sensitiveness of the operated eye to bright light is not due to the bandage; it varies greatly in different persons; some even do not show it at all. Where it exists it only shows that the eye has not completely recovered from the effects of the operation though the external wound may appear well healed. With the eyes well bandaged my patients are sitting in easy or rocking chairs, in light rooms, and are even allowed to take an exercising walk in their rooms; they go to bed when they please, and get up whenever they like. I have never observed any complication or accident which could directly or indirectly be attributed to this mode or treatment. The recovery was as rapid and the results as good as under the old-fashioned régime.

HBSTRAGTS.

EXPERIENCES CONCERNING ONANISM IN YOUNG CHIL-DREN. By Professor Hirschsprung, in Copenhagen. Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift, September 20, 1886.

The author of this paper is convinced that masturbation occurs in very young children, though we may be disinclined to believe it; and that the effects on the organism, and especially on the brain, are much worse than after puberty.

"I will show that masturbation is practiced at a very early age, not only by boys but also by girls, most frequently, according to my experience, by the latter.

"The following typical case occurred lately: A shapely, well-nourished girl, just thirteen months old, of Danish parentage, was brought to me on the 20th of November, 1884. She was the only child; the mother seemed very nervous, the father was healthy. The attending physician could not explain the attacks from which the child suffered.

"The child was said to have been suffering for eight or nine months from its attacks, which were still of a doubtful nature.

"On examination absolutely nothing was to be learned. The child was ruddy, was not rickety, had a normal temperature, normal urine, suffered a little from constipation. It cried continually during the investigation, and became quiet for the first time when the nurse took it in her arms. It grew gradually quiet, and I then observed an attack which lasted for about five minutes. The child lay stretched over the

breast and shoulder of the girl, clinging to her firmly with its hands, one on the servant's back and the other on her breast. Its feet were braced against the girl's abdomen. Now began a series of to-and-fro motions with the pelvis and the legs which were stretched out parallel. The child worked continually, was perfectly still, red in the face, the pupils dilated, grimaces came and went in its face; it sighed and sobbed so that it was supposed to be in pain, and the girl drew it, pityingly, closer to the breast. During the attack I stood close by. The child watched me with a longing, vacant look—the instant before it could not endure me. When the attack was over it loosened its hands and began immediately to cry again.

"The investigation of the genitals before and after the attack showed nothing specially abnormal.

"Such an attack, according to the mother, occurred several times during the day." By night the child was very restless, it was wakeful and fell asleep for the first time only after it had been taken up and given the opportunity to practice its habit.

"I communicated to my Swedish colleague my opinion of the case, and the advice which, of course, naturally followed from it, to remove from the child the opportunity for its vicious practices.

"After a month, I had the pleasure of learning from the father that my advice had borne fruit, but the family physician could not agree with my interpretation of the facts. Nevertheless, in this case, typical means were used, consisting of friction of the genital organs, the irritation being voluntary, and a high degree of sexual orgasm arose; this means nothing else than an intentional, even though igno-

rant arousing of the sexual passion. The vice indeed showed itself at an unusually early period of life, but a counterpart occurs in Kraft's case, cited by Vogel, of a girl eleven months old * * * who irritated the vulva with the hand.

"There is the closest agreement in the appearances seen in girls a little older, though the methods vary somewhat. They may be seen going through their exercise bent over a chair, stool, or something of the kind, the genitals pressed against the piece of furniture, but the typical method is crossing the legs while sitting and making backward and forward motions, with flushed face, staring eyes, great anxiety until the culmination. The case often ends with a sigh and collapse. The procedure is repeated whenever the opportunity is offered, often several times a day, perhaps also at night, many times quite typically in sleep.

"In 1884 I had such a girl under observation in the hospital. She was born October 1cth, 1881, and was at the time of her reception not yet quite three years old. She belonged to a neurotic family,—father and uncle had committed suicide,—and she was the only child.

"She was in every way well developed, was large for her age, but thin and anæmic, very active, somewhat restless in her manner. Since the age of one and a half years she had had attacks which were explained as pruritus of the genitals. She had visited the 'Poliklinik' of the hospital, but without result, because the supervision on the part of the nervous mother was not stringent enough, therefore she was brought to the hospital. During a considerable portion of the forty days of her stay in the hospital she was kept in bed, with her legs stretched out and bound fast to its sides. She was quite well, but was constipated, and somewhat rest-

less during her sleep. After getting out of bed there were several beginnings of an attack but nothing more."

The author mentions another case of a girl of eight, still under treatment, who has masturbated since her third year. "These cases, with three or four more, in age from one to eight, complete the list. When one can look over such a list he will be more firmly fixed in the opinion which I state positively that the cases occurring earlier in life belong to exactly the same class as the latter."

* * * * * * *

On account of the attendant erections the diagnosis is easier in males, but such cases are rare, he having seen only three cases in young boys.

"A sixteen months old boy came to the 'Poliklinik' on July 30th, 1878. He was small, thin, with fontanelles still open the head very large; he had twelve teeth and could walk when supported. The mother said that since his eighth month he had been observed daily in the following condition,—of late this had occured oftener: He sits upright, bent a little forward, with his body moving back and forth, penis erect, cries when disturbed, and at last is bathed in a profuse perspiration. After the attack, which may last for half an hour, he falls into a complete stupor. For a month he has been growing thin has diarrhœa and a poor appetite. Worms have not been noticed. Cold packs were advised. August 2d—Up to this time he has had only two attacks, and these were quickly overcome by cold water.

"There can be no doubt that masturbation in small children does not belong to the things of daily occurrence, but on the other hand, it does not occur so seldom as to escape the observation of a busy pædiatrist, nor must it in all cases be the result of false observation." * * * In works

on children the subject is usually only hinted at. "Vogel, I have already stated, mentions the fact, but the most detailed description is in Steiner's Compendium der Kinderkrankheiten, 1872. In the chapter on 'Onanism' he says: 'Concerning the age in which this vice is practiced, I have often noticed that it may be detected in very small children—from one to two years of age.' And he here remarks that in nurslings, after weaning, the sucking of the finger, which is so frequent, often occurs along with erection, great redness of the face, increased brightness of the eyes, and, finally, an outburst of perspiration. This remark certainly for the first time gives to it an ætiological meaning and is, according to his opinion, a plain indication of sexual irritation. Steiner does not believe that these occurrences take place in children at the breast." * *

Dr. Lindner, of Budapest, amplifies the same thought. In a note the author refers to the article by Dr. Jacobi on "Masturbation and hysteria in young children in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and children, 1876," which he has only seen in abstract. He has himself not seen such cases, but he calls attention to the exact agreement of Steiner and Lindner, and advises the physician to have a watchful eye upon the movements of children while nursing.

"As to my own cases, I will emphasize a distinct impression that I have had that great nervousness, or even decided mental disease, exists in the nearest relatives of these children and doubtless may play a part as a predisposing force.

"In the next place, I have had the impression that relatively many children observed by me have suffered with habitual constipation. I have been still more convinced of the importance of this symptom since my acquaintance with a case which Dr. V. Mohr, of Copenhagen, a few years ago, made the subject of a communication to the medical society of that place.

"He met a girl, three and half years old-again a girlthat had, for some time past, suffered with constipation. Lately she had begun to masturbate. She braced herself with her arms against a table and rubbed the thighs against one another. The mother said that for the whole day and evening, until she went to sleep, she did hardly anything else. Scarcely had she come into Mohr's room when she began her practice. The labia majora and minora were somewhat reddened, no fissure in the anus but a tension on account of which Mohr dilated the anus with his fingers. The operation removed the constipation as well as the masturbation. After eight days the old constipation began again, so that the operation had to be repeated. The child was then for three weeks very bright, then relapsed again, afterwards she recovered, and, at this time, apparently radically.

"I cannot pass over a badly itching attack of urticaria or of lichen, which may be such a great torment of children and is so difficult to remove. These troubles may be the first inducement to handling and friction, and may have onanism as a result."

"I have four times heard ascarides mentioned, but their meaning as a causative force I have not been able to understand." * * *

When Bouchut mentions "prurit de la vulve as a frequent cause of onanism I am unable to form an opinion of my own concerning the independent existence of this symptom.

"Instruction by others, which is certainly the most common

cause with boys and girls in later years, I may, fortunately, in the first years of life pass over." * * *

"The greatest care must be exercised to discover the cause, and the greatest watchfulness 'early and late, day and night,' must be used to prevent the practice; consequently such patients are usually better treated in hospitals."

LESTER CURTIS.

COCAINE INTOXICATION.

Dr. Commanus, Berlin,* describes a case of cocaine intoxication. The patient had contracted the morphine habit in seeking relief from hemorrhoids, and used cocaine as a substitute for morphine. He began with 0.05 grm. of muriate of cocaine three or four times daily. The remedy at first gave him real comfort without producing after effects worth mentioning. According to his account he enjoyed an alleviation of his hemorrhoidal difficulty and had a stool every day, which was not the case when using the morphine.

He finally reached doses of 0.5 to 0.8 grm. daily, when he began to suffer with "a poor appetite, ringing in the ears, occasional shortness of breath, and hallucinations in respect to the senses of sight and hearing." These symptoms he learned how to remove by small doses of morphine.

During an attack of herpes zoster he used doses of from a gramme to a gramme and a half daily for two or three days. Then followed "trembling of the limbs, relaxation of the muscles of the body, peculiar and rapidly extending

^{*} Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift, September 20th, 1886.

changes of the finger and toe nails, loss of appetite and sleep, very great agitation, strong hallucinations in the departments of the nerves of sight, smell and hearing; intensely injected conjunctivæ; a staring look. The patient fired several revolver shots at the objects of his hallucinations. He attacked his servant in order to force out of his mouth a lantern which was concealed there." These symptoms are seen to resemble those of delirium tremens. They were relieved in two or three days by small doses of morphine.

Dr. Mærkel,* also gives some warnings as to the danger of using cocaine.

Among these is the "significant sleeplessness lasting up to six hours after the cocaine injection."

He doubts, however, the danger of forming a cocaine habit, like the morphine habit, because he does not believe that cocaine is a pure nervine as morphine is. It produces its effect first through the nutrient grandular system, which it stimulates causing an excess of nutrition to flow to the nerve centres. His reasons for this opinion are that after the use of cocaine, a certain amount of salivation is always produced. There always follows a swelling of the lymphatic glands in spite of the most careful antiseptic precautions; even the mammary gland is sometimes affected in the male. This result is more marked on the side which has received the injection.

The appetite is always increased as after a drain upon the nutrition.

The drug produces not so much a stimulation as a feeling of well-being and elasticity, a disposition to play, as in growing young animals. After the effect has passed off there is no

^{*}Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift, March 8, 1886.

"katzenjammer," as after a debauch, only a return to the usual condition. At the most there is only a feeling of pleasant weakness.

It is in this disturbance of nutrition that he thinks the danger in its use lies. As a partial proof of this view, he states that the cocaine users of Central America always die of phthisis.

Lester Curtis.

A PECULIAR FORM OF MOTOR DISTURBANCE OF THE PUPIL (Eine Besondere Form von Bewegungsstörung der Pupille). By Dr. J. Salgó, Central-blatt für Nerven Heilkunde. October, 1886.

Salgó describes a peculiar form of pupil, which consists essentially of an irregular contraction of the muscular tissue of the iris, by which its pupillary margin assumes many different shapes. The pupil generally appears triangular or poliangular, with the corners thickened and rounded out, resembling somewhat the slit-like pupil of the cat, or the irregular appearance caused by synechia. This kind of pupil reacts in a normal manner, but after each movement assumes a somewhat different form, so that the contracted pupil appears different from the same when dilated.

The great majority of cases so far observed have been associated with general paralysis of the insane, though it has been seen in chronic, progressive psychoses in which no paralysis could be detected. The author considers that it is much the most frequent pupillary symptom in general paralysis, and regards it as an expression of the varying intensity of enervation from the cortex.

HAROLD N. MOYER.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Local Anesthesia in General Medicine and Surgery, Being the Practical Application of the Author's Discoveries. By J. Leonard Corning, M.D., pp. 103. New York: D. Appleton & Company. Chicago: A. C. Mc-Clurg & Company. 1886.

Nearly everything of value or of interest in this book had first appeared in the medical periodicals of the United States. It is principally a compilation of articles written by other men. It is entertaining and instructive, but the way in which the author forces his own personality upon the reader at every page is inexcusable. The book is one of the most flagrant examples which has appeared, of the growing tendency among certain of the members of the medical profession to attempt to advance their personal interests by exhibitions of egotisms, as is shown throughout this book by the frequent use of the nominative case of the first person singular, and the devising and displaying of needless modifications of instruments.

It has been ascertained that in using cocaine for producing local anæsthesia the following precautions are desirable: I. The particular sample of the drug used must be a good one. The author prefers that prepared by Mariani, but others seem to be equally good. 2. Strong solutions, particularly about the head, are apt to produce unpleasant physiological symptoms. The author prefers a one or two per-centum

solution. In one case local insensibility was maintained for one hour and a half by the use of a one-third per-centum solution, heated to 99° F. before injection. Heating the solution has been found to increase its anæsthetic power. 3. The best method in using the drug is, to first apply an Esmarch bandage, say in an extremity, up to the lower margin of the region which it is desired to render anæsthetic. using a solution of the desired strength, make repeated injections of say two minims, just under the skin, at short intervals of space throughout the area to be anæsthetized. Next apply the bandage above but not over the injected area, and apply the tourniquet. The bandage may or may not be removed below the point of operation. When the operation involves the deeper tissues, the injections of one to three drops each, are to be repeated at successively deeper points as the anæsthesia proceeds, even down to and under the periosteum. 4. The anæsthesia seems to continue as long as the circulation in the part is stopped. A practical suggestion in this connection is, that when large quantities of the drug have been used, the circulation in the part should be re-established gradually. One convenient method for this purpose is to leave an elastic band so adjusted as to retard only the subcutaneous venous circulation.

BOOK REVIEWS.

5. In addition to the use of cocaine in cutting operations, it has been found to be of great service for purposes of diagnosis and reduction of fractures and dislocations. In this class of cases the injections must be carried down to the bone, and the use of the tourniquet is desirable. In the cases reported all pain was abolished and no injurious effects resulted. 6. It is desirable to avoid the puncture of large veins. For this purpose the author uses superficial pressure

enough to retard the venous circulation, and then traces the course of the veins with a soft blue pencil.

A Manual of Surgery. In Treatises by Various Authors. In three volumes. By Frederick Treves, F.R.C.S., Surgeon to and Lecturer on Anatomy at the London Hospital. Vol. I., General Surgical Affections, The Bloodvessels; The Nerves; The Skin. Vol. II., The Thorax; The Organs of Digestion; The Genito-Urinary Organs. Vol. III., The Organs of Locomotion and of Special Sense; The Respiratory Passages; The Head; The Spine. Duodecimo, 1866 pages, 213 engravings. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Company, 1886. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company.

This book is a successful attempt to represent the principles and practice of modern surgery in the form and manner most acceptable to the greatest number of practitioners and medical students. It is "Concerned mainly with the Clinical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Aspects of Surgery." Thirty-three hospital surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland are the "Various Authors" of the fifty-nine treatises" or monographs of which the "Manual" is composed.

The name of Frederick Treves as editor, who himself writes some of the most important articles, is sufficient guarantee that the work is all that it claims to be. Besides the editor, many of the contributors are also well known writers and clinical teachers, while we find a number of new names in the list. All the articles are of a high order of merit. There seems to have been a special effort through-

out to incorporate and emphasize recently established doctrines and methods.

There are not many illustrations, but what there are are mostly original, and always to the point. The "Manual" is destined to become popular both as a text-book and as a book of reference, and to take rank with the standard works on surgery.

A TREATISE ON THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. For the use of Students and Practitioners of Medicine. By Roberts Bartholow, M.A., M.D., LL.D., Professor of Materia Medica, General Therapeutics and Hygiene in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, etc., etc. Sixth Edition, Revised and Enlarged; pp. 990. New York: D. Appleton & Company. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company. 1886.

In the preface to this edition the author anticipates adverse criticism by announcing, first, that this volume is only one of three which he intends to publish upon the subject of special pathology and therapeutics, and second, that he makes no claim to completeness for his treatment of the various subjects in the book. It is his intention that the treatment of the subjects taken up shall be eminently clinical rather than scientific, and that what he says shall represent his opinions rather than the opinions of other men.

The author says: "In the present edition some new subjects have been introduced, and preliminary chapters have been appended to the chief divisions of the work, to make the study of the diseases of the class more exact."

As a treatise on the practice of medicine the book has two

grave faults. Too little attention is given to the history and pathology of the diseases discussed, and the treatment given represents too exclusively that of the author. And it is hardly enough for him to say in reply that what this book does not contain the other two will. In spite of its faults the book is a fair clinical guide as far as it goes, and the positive nature of the opinions expressed will commend it to some who like to be told just exactly what to prescribe in a given case.

The Healing of Arteries After Ligature in Man and Animals. By J. Collins Warren, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, Harvard University; Surgeon to the Massachusetts General Hospital; Member American Surgical Association; Honorary Fellow Philadelphia Academy of Surgery. One volume, pp. 184, illustrated with twelve full-page plates in black and colors. Parchment-muslin binding. New York: William Wood & Company.

The author claims that this book represents what he has observed in an attempt "to observe not only the behavior of the various tissues concerned in the process of repair, but also the different phases through which the vessel passes from the moment of ligature until the condition is reached after which no further change occurs."

The book is divided into five chapters, viz., History, Experiments on Animals, Human Subject, Closure of the Fœtal Vessels, and Summary. All that the author has to say will be read with interest by pathologists and surgeons, but that which is of greatest interest to the general professional reader is contained in the summary, which is so con-

cisely written as not to permit further condensation. ever, mere mention of a few of the conclusions reached will be of interest in this notice of the book. The period of time after ligature to the development of the final scar, varies with different vessels, but in no case was it observed to be less than three months. Another prominent feature observed is the complex nature of the process. Many museum specimens examined had the appearance of union by adhesion, but careful examination did not justify such conclusion. experiments "seemed to show that the muscular cell is a prominent and essential feature of the arterial cicatrix. The size of the thrombus depends upon a, the amount of traumatism, and b, the presence of aseptic conditions, it being always present, Senn and Baumgarten to the contrary nevertheless, and large in direct proportion to the amount of traumatism to the artery itself and to the amount of suppuration in the wound. It is probable that an hour or more may elapse before the thrombus has become perceptible to the naked eve.

True progress in the advancement of medical knowledge is made by just such work as this book represents, and the manner and matter of the report is beyond criticism. The paper, printing and binding, and the careful accuracy of the drawing of the illustrations, combine to make the book a very handsome and exceptionally fine volume.

- I. MANUAL OF DIFFERENTIAL MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS. By CONDICT W. CUTLER, M.S., M.D. 12mo, pp. 161.

 New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company. 1886.
- 2. Lectures on Dietetics and Dyspepsia. By Sir William Roberts, M.D., F.R.S. Second Edition. Small 8vo, pp. ix, 92. London: Smith, Elder & Company. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Chicago: A. C.McClurg & Company. 1886.
- 1. This little manual follows the plan, adopted in so many of our recent works, of giving the differential diagnostic symptoms in parallel columns. Thus, under the head of diseases of the mouth and throat, we find ædema glottidis differentiated from croup, thoracic aneurism, asthma and retro-pharyngeal abscess. Again, under acute general disease, we find measles compared with variola, scarlet fever, roseola, and typhus.

The teacher will find this little work useful, as by it he may appeal to the eye as well as the ear of the student.

A few minor errors are to be observed, such as "typhus fever," but in the main the work is reliable, having been compiled from the best sources.

2. This little work is fragmentary. The first lecture deals with dietetics in general, and shows extensive reading and careful thought. The fifth lecture is a valuable monograph on the nature, causes and treatment of acid dyspepsia. The three remaining lectures embody the author's views and experiments on the accessory articles of food, tea, coffee, alcohol, etc., and their relation to digestion. His views are in many respects different from those commonly accepted.

They are, however, theoretically correct, and will doubtless stand the test of practical application. The work is a valuable addition to the literature of dietetics.

The addition of the terms "collagenous," "oligopepsia," and "horrification" to our nomenclature may be regarded as of doubtful utility.

DICTIONARY OF PRACTICAL SURGERY. By Various Hospital Surgeons. Edited by Christopher Heath, F.R.C.S., Holme Professor of Clinical Surgery in University College, etc., etc.; pp. 1854. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1886.

This book is apparently intended to stand in the same relation to the usual treatise on the principles and practice of surgery in which Quain's Dictionary of Medicine stands to the usual so-called "Practice of Medicine." The editor says that it is intended for the use of men who are too busy to investigate thoroughly the subjects upon which they want information. The surgical affections are described in alphabetical order, except such as it has been found more convenient to group together in a series, as e.g., those of the breast. Abundant cross-references are given. The subjects are treated of in the following order: 1, Cause; 2, Pathology; 3, Symptoms and Diagnosis; 4, Treatment; 5, Prognosis. Each writer has signed his articles and has thus been made responsible for his own statements. The editor has exercised only a general supervision, and has endeavored to exclude crude theories and doubtful practices. There are no illustrations. "The aim of the editor has been to produce a compendium of the practice of British surgery of the present day," and as none of the articles are more than two years old, he thinks that aim has been fairly attained. In special fields of surgery, as that of the abdomen, for example, the book cannot serve as a complete guide, but for the purpose for which it is intended it is reliable and quite complete. One feature which deserves special mention and commendation is, that many slight ailments which the usual treatise does not mention, but of which a physician frequently wants some additional and reliable information, are carefully and tersely described. The articles on the various skin diseases are a desirable feature and are well written. The book as a whole is to be strongly commended.

Massage as a Mode of Treatment. By William Murrell, M.D., F.R.C.P. 12mo, pp. vi, 78. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Company. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

This little volume contains many practical hints on the use of massage, and a perusal of it is well calculated to remove many of the too prevalent errors of the profession, regarding this subject.

It contains an excellent description of the various movements and manipulations employed in using massage, together with suggestions as to the proper choice and necessary qualifications of operators. The portion dealing with the physiological action of massage is defective, and the discussion of the chief therapeutical indications might have been lengthened with advantage.

The work as a whole has considerable value, and those not familiar with the subject can readily obtain from its pages sufficient knowledge to enable them to prescribe this mode of treatment intelligently. At the close of the work there is an abstract of an article on "Massage and Morals," giving a brief description of some of the methods of the advertising rubber, and reiterating the statement that under no circumstances should a lady or child be treated by any one but a reliable masseuse. Those unacquainted with the character of many of the "professors" and "institutes" with which our larger cities are infested cannot be too heedful of this warning.

H. N. M.

A Manual of Minor Surgery and Bandaging. For the Use of House-surgeons, Dressers and Junior Practitioners. By Christopher Heath, F.R.C.S. Eighth Edition; pp. 360, 12mo. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Company. 1886.

The date of the preface to this edition is July, 1886. In this preface the author makes only two statements, viz., that the book is intended only for beginners, and that he "can only feel flattered," that the book is favorably mentioned in a certain popular novel. The first edition appeared in 1861, and the reader will to-day be as unable as the author apparently is to give a reason for the appearance of this edition. The chapter on antiseptics is enough to condemn the book, which, in the light of modern surgery, cannot fail to do harm whenever it falls into the hands for which it is stated that it is intended, viz., "beginners."

A TREATISE ON THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF PRACTITIONERS AND STUDENTS OF MEDICINE. By AUSTIN FLINT, M.D., LL.D., late Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine, and of Clinical Medicine, in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, etc. Sixth Edition, revised and largely rewritten by the author, assisted by WILLIAM H. WELCH, M.D., Professor of Pathology in Johns Hopkins University, and Austin Flint, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Physiology in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College. pp. 1,160. Philadelphia: LEA BROTHERS & COMPANY, 1886. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company. It will be a great satisfaction to the admirers of the late Professor Austin Flint, Sr., to know that this edition of his "Practice of Medicine" was revised under his own immediate supervision. Dr. William H. Welch has written the first seven chapters and a large part of the eighth in Part I, and he has also revised and rewritten the description of anatomical characters of the diseases considered in the rest of the volume.

Special attention is called in the preface to the following entirely new articles: Infectious Tumors; Syphilitic Disease of the Lungs; Cerebral Syphilis; General Considerations relating to Inflammatory and Structural Diseases of the Spinal Cord; Spastic Cerebral Paralysis of Children; Hereditary Ataxia; Myxœdema; Multiple Neuritis; General Pathology of Fever and Milk Sickness; "and in nearly every article changes and additions, some of them very important, have been made."

The statement is made that this edition "contains a full consideration of recent discoveries concerning the bacterial origin of various infectious diseases." With Dr. Welch as sponsor for this statement it may be accepted without question.

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The limits of a mere book notice do not allow a critical consideration of the new matter introduced, and the reputation of the author and his assistant render such consideration unnecesary. The book may be truly considered "the crowning work of his (the author's) long professional life." It may be said to more fairly "represent the existing state of medical science, with respect to those subjects of which it treats," than any other English work. Those physicians who have the fifth edition will want the sixth, and those who have neither ought to have the last.

An Atlas of Clinical Microscopy. By Alexander Peyer, M.D., translated and edited by Alfred C. Girard, M.D. New York: D. Appleton & Company. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Company.

The book has ninety plates, some of the plates having several different sets of figures. The subjects comprise blood, milk, urine, sputum. fæces, vomit, "contents of abdominal tumors," by which he means one plate devoted to an ovarian cyst, "secretion of female sexual organs," and "various microorganisms provoking disease."

The plates are carefully, sometimes laboriously, drawn, but with a stiffness of hand which shows that the author is not an artist. In many instances, also, they must have been finished

away from the microscope, as shown in the air-bubbles in plate five, which no one would recognize. The text is brief, as such a text should be, but crude and often untrustworthy. For example, one familiar with the subject would not at this day have said, "the relative quantity of the leucocytes to the red corpuscles is I to 300" (page 2). Again, the statement that "this form of urethritis [from masturbation] never leads to strictures" (page IO2) is not true. See Gross: "Disorders of the Male Sexual Organs."

On the whole, the author has attempted something beyond his strength, but appears to have done his work as well as he could.

The translation is readable, but as a specimen of English is neither elegant nor correct.

The publishers have done their part in good style.

Notwithstanding the faults and deficiencies of the work, it supplies a want, and is worthy of a place in the physician's library.

Lester Curtis.

BOOKS REGEIVED.

How We Treat Wounds Today. By Robert T. Morris, M.D. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company. Second edition.

A Treatise of the Principles and Practice of Medicine. By Austin Flint, M.D., LL.D. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Company. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company.

Massage as a Mode of Treatment. By William Murrell, M.D., F.R.C.P. Philadelphia: C. Blakiston, Son & Company. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

Transactions of the American Surgical Association. Volume IV. By J. Ewing Mears, M.D. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son & Company. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

The Curability of Insanity. By Pliny Earle, A.M., M.D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Company. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company.

The Functions of the Brain. By David Ferrier, M.D., LL.D. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Company.

A Laboratory Guide in Urinalysis and Toxicology. By R. A. Witthans, A.M., M.D. New York: William Wood & Company. Chicago: W. T. Keener.

Eighth Annual Report of the State Board of Health of Illinois.

Thirteenth Annual Report of State Board of Health of Michigan.

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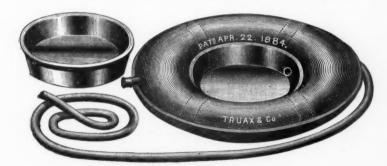
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DOSE.

One half to one fluid drachm in WATER or SYRUP every hour until sleep is produced.

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THE PRELIMINARY SESSION will begin on Wednesday, September 15, 1886, and end September 29, 1886. It will be conducted on the same plan as the Regular Winter Session.

THE REGULAR WINTER SESSION will begin September 29, 1886, and end about March, 1887. The plan of Instruction consists of Didactic and Clinical Lectures, recitations and laboratory work in all subjects in which it is practicable. To put the laboratories on a proper footing a new building has been erected at an expense of forty thousand dollars.

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members of the Faculty. In addition to the ordinary clinics, special clinical instruction, with a court additional terms and the given to the candidates for graduation during the latter part of the Regular Session. For this purpose the candidates will be divided into sections of twenty-five members each. All who desire to avail themselves of this valuable privilege must give in their names to the Dean during the first week in November. At these special clinics students will have excellent opportunities to make and verify diagnoses, and watch the effects of treatment. They will be help in the Wards of the Hospitals and at the Public and College Dispensaries.

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tion on his subject one evening each week. Students are thus enabled to make up for lost leverures and prepare themselves properly for their final examinations without additional expense. THE SPRING SESSION will begin about the middle of March and end the last week in May. The daily Clinics and Special Practical Courses will be the same as in the Winter Session, and there will be Lectures on Special Subjects by Members of the Faculty. It is supplementary to the Regular Winter Session. Nine months of continued instruction are thus secured to all students of the University who desire a thorough course.

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PROFESSORS.

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ROBERTS BARTHOLOW, M. D. LL.D., Materia Medica, General Therapeutics and Hygiene.

HENRY C. CHAPMAN, M. D., Institutes of Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence.

SAMUEL W. GROSS, M. D., Principles of Surgery and Clinical Surgery.

JOHN H. BRINTON, M. D., Practice of Surgery and Clinical Surgery. THEOPHILUS PARVIN, M. D., LL. D., Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children

J. W. HOLLAND, M. D., Medical Chemistry and Toxicology.

W. S. FORBES, M. D., General, Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy.

> WILLIAM THOMSON, M. D., Professor of Ophthalmology.

MORRIS LONGSTRETH, M. D., Lecturer on Pathological Anatomy.

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except those who have had such instruction, and those who are graduates of other colleges of ten years' standing.

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